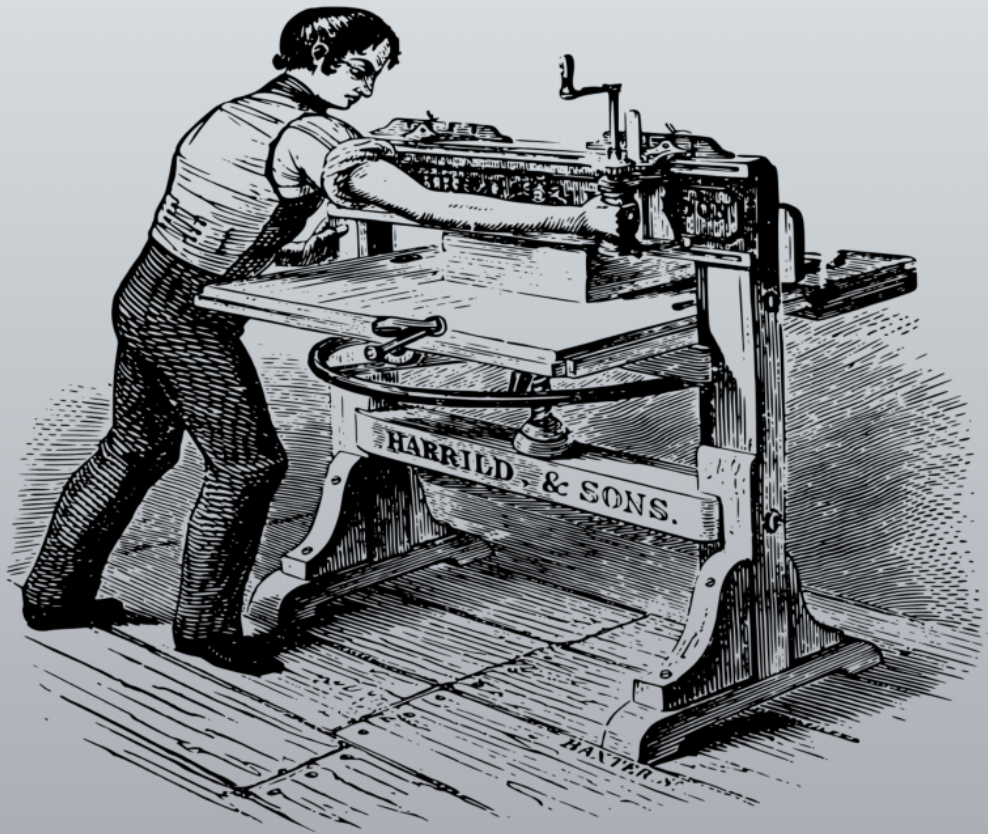
THE COLLECTED WRITINGS OF

MICHAEL S. HART



Collected Writings of Michael S. Hart, Vol. 1

Michael S. Hart

Reuse of individual sections is subject to the terms of their respective licenses. The Basement Interviews is reproduced under Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 2.0. All Project Gutenberg texts are freely redistributable under the Project Gutenberg License.

Collected Writings of Michael S. Hart, Vol. 1

About This Book
The Basement Interviews
A Brief History of the Internet
The Project Gutenberg Literary Archive Foundation Blog
Project Gutenberg Newsletters 1999
The Full Project Gutenberg License

Title Page
Table of Contents

About This Book

Michael S. Hart (1947–2011) founded Project Gutenberg in 1971 when he typed the United States Declaration of Independence into the University of Illinois mainframe and offered it as a free download. He spent the rest of his life giving books away.

This volume collects his words: an interview, an essay, blog posts, and newsletters spanning three decades of advocacy for free information.

The Basement Interviews: Preserving the Public Domain was conducted by Richard Poynder and is reproduced here under the Creative Commons Attribution–NonCommercial–NoDerivatives 2.0 License.

A Brief History of the Internet was produced by Michael Hart and Maxwell Fuller and is made available by Project Gutenberg (gutenberg.org).

The Project Gutenberg Literary Archive Foundation Blog writings are by Michael S. Hart, published at hart.pglaf.org.

Project Gutenberg Newsletters 1999 are produced by and reproduced courtesy of Project Gutenberg.

This ebook is freely redistributable. Reuse of individual sections is subject to the terms of their respective licenses as noted above.

The Basement Interviews

Michael Hart, founder of Project Gutenberg, speaks to Richard Poynder

Published 9th March 2006 1

Michael Hart was born in Tacoma, Washington, USA, in 1947. His mother, who had earned three degrees before turning 18 and was a cryptanalyst during WWII, was business manager for “the chicest women’s store” in the town; his father was an accountant.

When Hart was eleven his parents both decided to retrain as university professors, and the family moved to Urbana, Illinois, where Hart lives today. Even before entering high school Hart himself had regularly attended lectures at the University of Illinois. “I found nothing I couldn’t understand,” he says, “so long as jargon wasn’t an issue.”

When Hart went to University in his own right he completed a four-year “individual plan of study” program in two years, obtaining a degree in Human- Machine Interfaces. However, it was when — on 4th July 1971 — that Hart was given an account on the University of Illinois mainframe that he found his true metier. Casting around for a worthwhile cause with which to use the computer time he had been given, and conscious that the computer was connected to the nascent Internet, he decided to type the US Declaration of Independence into the computer — a faux parchment copy of which he had just been given at his local grocery store to mark Independence Day.

Immediately seeing the potential of the network as a revolutionary new medium for distributing information, Hart was soon typing in entire books, including the Bible, all of Shakespeare, and Alice in Wonderland. Thus was born Project Gutenberg — a project that rapidly turned into an ambitious scheme to make electronic copies of 10,000 out-of-copyright books freely available on the Internet. Hart’s mission: “to break down the bars of ignorance and illiteracy.”

In retrospect Project Gutenberg was both prescient and revolutionary. In effect, Hart had become the first “information provider” twenty years before Tim Berners-Lee invented the Web, and at a time when there were, says Hart,

just 100 people on the network. Indeed, what was to become the Internet was then viewed as little more than a powerful mechanism for crunching data — not a publishing platform.

The interview took place m May 2005 ( )

But for 17 years Hart had to plough a solitary furrow. Widely dismissed as "that crazy guy who wants to put Shakespeare in a computer" he had by 1997 input only 313 books. In 1998, however, he had a breakthrough. Linking up with the University of Illinois PC User Group, Hart set up a mailing list and started publicising his project. Soon he had recruited a team of volunteers to help, and by the end of that year 1,600 books had been keyed in. For his efforts Hart was honoured as one of the "Wired 25" in the November 1998 issue of Wired magazine.

Since then the number of volunteers has grown from tens, to hundreds, to thousands, and today Project Gutenberg offers over 17,000 e-texts, all of which can be freely downloaded in a wide variety of formats. In addition, there are now national Project Gutenbergs in Australia, Germany, Portugal, Canada and the Philippines, and plans are under way to create local projects in Africa, Asia, and other regions too.

New obstacles were to arise however: while copyright had always posed a challenge for Hart, the 1998 Sonny Bono Copyright Term Extension Act — extending US copyright by a further 20 years — removed one million potential eBooks from the public domain in one fell swoop. With copyright now averaging 95.5 years, and creators no longer needing to register their copyright, Hart began to fear that the public domain could disappear all together, undermining the raison d'etre of what by then had become his life's mission.

When, therefore, opponents of the Sonny Bono Act decided to mount a legal challenge to the new law, Hart was the natural plaintiff. But Lawrence Lessig — the Stanford Law School professor who argued the case — refused to allow Hart to attach an appendix to the court documents expressing his personal views on the plundering of the public domain, so Hart walked away from the case, unprepared to be just a figurehead. His place was taken by Eric Eldred, and the case went all the way to the Supreme Court as Eldred v. Ashcroft, only to fall at the last hurdle.

However, with an unshakeable faith in the importance of what he is doing, and calculating that 9 million books will nevertheless enter the public domain by 2020, Hart set a new mission for Project Gutenberg: to make 10 million eBooks available in 100 languages.

For Hart the stakes are high, since he views Project Gutenberg as more than just the first and largest distributor of public domain eBooks. In addition, he argues, it is a primitive example of a "replicator" (a reference to a Star Trek machine envisaged as being capable of copying any inanimate matter by rearranging subatomic particles), and so therefore also a "lever to the Neo-lndustrial Revolution."

Hart believes that in the future a powerful new breed of replicators — which will include 3D printers and nano assembly tools — will be able to produce and copy physical objects as easily and cheaply as it is currently possible to make and copy electronic books and other types of digital information. This, he says will enable a new "unlimited distribution" model that will eradicate scarcity and usher in a neo-industrial revolution, benefiting mankind as radically as did the first industrial revolution.

The danger, he cautions, is that to protect vested interests, governments and large corporations will seek to artificially maintain today's limited distribution mode, making the current controversy over the ownership of digital information and the Internet a mere dress rehearsal for a more profound struggle. In short, if the battle over intellectual property and the public domain is lost, says Hart, it will set an ominous precedent for the future.

Many are quick to characterise Hart as an eccentric. While rejecting that term, Hart agrees to "not being like anyone else I've ever met". Certainly he has an unusual take on the world — a characteristic that when Hart graduated led an assistant dean at the University of Illinois to comment: "Like many young men who are brilliant, there is always the danger of [Hart] being misunderstood as simply eccentric 2 ." For that reason, he added, Hart should be "given the opportunity to pursue courses of action which might at first seem somewhat bizarre."

For its first 17 years Project Gutenberg was indeed viewed as a "somewhat bizarre" enterprise. Today, however, it is widely recognised as the first and most concerted attempt to preserve the public domain in the digital age.

Above all, however, Project Gutenberg is testimony to the determination of Hart, a man not easily deflected from his target. As his long-time friend Sue DeVries puts it: "Michael is absolutely brave, in the bone-deep sense, which makes him able to keep to a chosen path when others might find a task too daunting. He does not change his opinion or feelings with public opinion or outside pressure. He is also very funny, delights in all kinds of things, and has a great laugh."

As I discovered, Hart is also a challenging person to interview. Having a conversation with him is — as he himself puts it — like “herding cats”. Nearly every question asked of him exploded into a series of related and more complex questions, and then bounced back to me. Since Hart’s preferred mode of communication is e-mail, my inbox was soon throbbing with hundreds of messages; and when he eventually agreed to a telephone conversation he insisted that I turn off the tape recorder, leaving me desperately scribbling on a cascade of loose sheets of paper that constantly fell to the floor!

” http://wwletters .html

He also seems to be a man whose attention can quickly stray. After the hectic flurry of e-mails, and the phone conversation, I found it increasingly difficult to get Hart to respond to my requests for clarification of points he had made: his constantly active mind appeared to have wandered off — presumably to new schemes and ideas; and no doubt to more interesting questions from importunate journalists!

But eventually the interview was finished. What it reveals is a man whose whole life has clearly been dedicated to defending the public domain, but who is sometimes a little hard to fathom.

The interview begins..

RP: Were yon a gifted child?

MH: My parents don’t believe in such things and, until Sputnik went up, neither did the school system I was in. I was lucky: in 1958 my parents decided to go back to school and become professors — Mom chose math and Dad Shakespearean studies. So I got a great education at home on both fronts. I grew up in a house full of books, electronics (hi-fi) and artwork.

RP: What is your memory of school?

MH: School was just boring, except for baseball, marbles, dodge ball etc. School can be lots of fun if you don’t care about grades. Grades are anathema to learning.

RP: Why anathema?

MH: When I was concerned about grades I never had a grasp of The Big Picture, it was all “Will it be on the exam?”, whereas when I didn’t care about the grades I studied the subject as a whole, remembered only what I thought was important, didn’t worry about the exams so much, and got

better grades anyway. When I was out for The Big Picture, I

would read the textbooks for fun, entertainment, and education, not just slave tasking, and the results were better in every way.

The more years I spent in school, the less attention I paid to grades, and in the end I finished college with straight A's in only two years. I had learned how to learn. Something they don't really teach in school. Young kids know how to learn, and then this is taken away from them as school goes on. I relearned it.

RP: You clearly also enjoyed regular activities like baseball and marbles — and indeed you were the champion of the first University of Illinois Frisbee Tournament! — but presumably you stood out from your peers? After all, you were still an undergraduate when you started Project Gutenberg — an initiative viewed today as both prescient and, in retrospect, really rather revolutionary?

MH: I don't think I stood out from my peers in any respect they would notice, certainly not in the way I dressed or acted. My interests were simply different from theirs, but most never realised it. I would never have been voted "mostly likely to" anything, since our interests didn't intersect.

The teachers didn't think all that much of me either, since I approached their subjects in ways that were not taught in the books. I did have one high school teacher who understood, and you can read her letter at: www.promo.net/hart .

RP: After interviewing you many journalists tend to describe you as an "eccentric", a description you appear to revel in. What kind of eccentric are you?

MH: Actually, I specifically avoid the term eccentric. However, I freely admit to not being like anyone else I've ever met. I don't think like other people do, otherwise you wouldn't be talking to me. I don't do the cookie cutter image thing. On the other hand, if you met me somewhere, I wouldn't stand out, other than that I will talk with nearly anyone.

RP: So how would you describe yourself?

MH: Idealistic, utilitarian, workaholic, innovative, independent, intelligent, adventurous, gregarious. In short, I am an idealist, and a person who puts his thoughts and ideals into action; a visionary, if you will. Most people still do not understand as much about eBooks as I understood in that first moment when I started Project Gutenberg thirty-five years

A light went on

RP: Well, it was certainly not what you would expect from the average undergraduate. I assume it was no accident either that the first document you made available was the US Declaration of Independence?

MH: Actually it was pretty serendipitous! Project Gutenberg was just one of those great combinations of luck and being the right person in the right place at the right time.

RP: How do you mean?

MH: We were coming up to the 200th anniversary of the War of Insurrection. On the night I started Project Gutenberg I had been out later than usual watching the 4th of July fireworks. On my way back I decided to get some food and stopped at the grocery store, where a faux parchment copy of the US Declaration of Independence was given to me with my dinner.

As luck would further have it, my brother's best friend was the University's mainframe operator, and that very night I had been given my first computer account — along with $100,000 of the "play money" required to run it. So I was trying to figure an interesting and worthwhile way to use the account.

After spending an hour or two trying to think of something, I decided to eat, and as the faux parchment fell out with the groceries a light went on over my head. As a result, on the night of July 4 l , 1971, Project Gutenberg came into existence, as I sat down and typed in that historical document.

RP: This was long before the Web. Making it available on the Internet in 1971 presumably meant loading it directly on to the university mainframe. How exactly did you "publish" the document?

MH: I used a Teletype 4 machine (possibly the one I still have in my basement) with paper tape and all that. My initial plan was to email it — after all, just 100 people then inhabited the Net". But I was told that I would crash the entire system if I did. It's hard for

Technically the Internet did not exist in 1 97 1 . It developed out of a network called ARPAnet. ARP Anet had been created by the US Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARP A) in 1969. One of ARPA's goals was to connect mainframe computers at different universities around the country so that they would be able to communicate using a common language and a common protocol. In the 1 980s the ARPAnet gradually merged into the Internet, and was itself closed in 1994. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/History of the Internet

4 A teletype (teleprinter, teletypewriter, or TTY) is a now largely obsolete electro-mechanical typewriter which can be used to communicate typed messages from point to point through a simple electrical communications channel, often just a pair of wires. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Teletvpe

5 How accurately can we estimate the number of users on the Internet? Certainly it is not a precise science, particularly when looking back 35 years. Some argue that a more accurate measure is the number of hosts (computer systems with a registered IP address). Hobbes' Internet Timeline indicates that there were 23 hosts connected to ARPAnet in 1971 i) The Internet Systems Consortium (ISC) estimates that there are now nearly 400 million Internet hosts. To return to users, last year the Computei Industry Almanac estimated there are now one billion users on the Internet, a figure it

people to realise just how primitive the Net was then — we think nothing of sending a five gigabyte file to thousands of people, but one five kilobyte file to 100 people would have shut it all down.

So I put a message on what later became comp.gen, a Usenet newsgroup 6 , and kept the files in the school's tape farm. People would send an email if they wanted to see it and someone in the computer lab would load the tape, usually my best friend. Then we would tell them where it was and how to download it.

RP: A small start, but presumably your choice of name for the project implied high ambitions: Johannes Gutenberg was the 15th Century printer who invented the moveable type printing press; since everything had to be handwritten before then he enabled a huge revolution in the way information could be disseminated.

MH: Even the greatest journeys start with but a single step. The ramifications of the Gutenberg Press are far more profound than I have ever heard anyone even try to mention. The social, economic, and intellectual changes were all revolutionary.

RP: Right. Amongst other things, Gutenberg enabled translations of the Bible to be made widely available — a development that later led to Luther nailing his 95 theses to the Wittenberg church door, and so to the protestant reformation.

MH: "Translation" is one of the key words here. The church did not want the masses to be able to read the Bible. Gutenberg printed it in a way they could read it, by themselves, in their own language, rather than the long-dead and secret Latin used by the church.

RP: Unlike Gutenberg you didn't invent the technology but….

MH: Actually, Gutenberg didn't invent the printing press; he just added one element: moveable type. I didn't invent the Internet; I just added one element: books that can be copied at the speed of light. Like Gutenberg I made books so much easier for the masses to get, and so much cheaper.

RP: The point I wanted to make is that you were the first person to see the potential of the Internet as a new' information medium, rather than a tool for crunching data. In

predicts will rise to two billion by 20 1 1 (http://www. c-i-a.com/pr0106. htm).

6 Usenet is a distributed Internet discussion system that was conceived by Duke University graduate students Tom Truscott and Jim Ellis in 1979. Users read and post email-like messages to a number of distributed cat jori in The medium is distributed among a large number of servers, which store and forward messages to one another. Individual users download and post messages to a single server, usually operated by their ISP or university, and the servers exchange the messages between each other. http : //en . wikipedia.org/wiki/Usenet

7 Johannes Gensfleisch zur Laden zum Gutenberg was a German metal-worker and inventor who achieved fame for his contributions to the technology of printing during the middle of the 15th Century, including a type metal alloy and oil-based inks, a mould for casting type accurately, and a new kind of printing press based on presses used in wine-making

effect, you became the first Internet information provider twenty years before Tim Berners-Lee created the Web 8 .

MH: I was certainly the first person to say that computers and the Internet would not to be used for computing, but for the dissemination of general information. But it took a long time for the idea to catch on, and no one really paid any attention for some time. In fact, it was 17 years before I received any comment other than I was "that crazy guy who wants to put Shakespeare in a computer". But I immediately saw what the Net would be like 35 years down the line, except that I was not as concerned with multimedia as everyone else was.

RP: What was also revolutionary about Project Gutenberg is that it became one of the first examples of the network being used to enable a group of geographically dispersed volunteers to collaborate on a common task — a model later famously exploited by the Open Source movement. How did the

collaboration start?

MH: As I say, not for a long time since there was so little interest in what I was doing. The big change came when I went to a few demos by Apple and IBM on the University of Illinois campus, and met the people who were about to start the University of Illinois PC User Group. This was around 1988-89.

At the first PCUG meeting I was the only one who actually brought a computer, so by default I set up the [the group's] mailing list and wrote the first newsletter. Mark Zinzow 9 was also at that first meeting and we became friends and started one of the Tuesday lunches I still go to 15-16 years later.

Mark was a huge help in getting things rolling for the Project Gutenberg mirror sites, list servers, mail servers, etc. There is no way to thank him enough. After a while volunteers started coming from all over. By then the Net had passed a quarter of a million people and it was possible to find someone interested in anything, so getting volunteers became much easier.

RP: How many volunteers are there now?

MH: I would estimate that we now have between 10,000 to 20,000 volunteers. 10

Tim Berners-Lee developed the concept and the protocols of the World Wide Web in 1989 (http://www.w3. org/People/Berners-Lee) , but he did not release them on the Internet until 1991.

9 Mark Zinzow is a senior research programmer at the University of Illinois

10 Initially the text of an eBook was physically typed in, and one person or a small group of like-minded individuals undertook the process of proofreading and preparing it. In late 2000, however, Distributed Proofreaders (http : // www . p gdp . net/c/def ault . php) was launched to support the development of Project Gutenberg, and is now the main source of PG eBooks. Project managers scan the books and the images are run through optical character recognition (OCR) software. OCR software, however, is presently far from perfect, and a large number of errors often appear in the resulting text. To deal with this, individual pages are made available to volunteer proofreaders via a web-based interface. This displays the original page's image and the recognised text side-by-side. Using only a web browser, therefore, volunteers can download a single page of OCR text and its matching page image, make changes to the text, and save it. After two such passes the pages are returned to a project manager who fixes any problems noted by the proofreaders

RP: The original mission of Project Gutenberg was to create 10,000 eBooks. You achieved that in 2000. What's next?

MH: Right. Contrary to all the pundits' prolific predictions over the years, Project Gutenberg has not only not gone under, but has continued its growth on a curve in excess of Moore's Law 11 .

The initial aim was to offer 10,000 eBooks and get the average eBook to 100 million readers, or 1.5% of the world. We now have 17,000 eBooks and the current mission is to create 1,000,000 eBooks and get the average eBook to 1 billion readers, or around 15% of the world. In total, we now provide eBooks in 42 languages.

RP: What's the endgame?

MH: The future mission is to create 10,000,000 eBooks and translate them into 100 different languages.

RP: Effectively, you plan to make every book in the public domain available as an e-text?

MH: Right. Once Project Gutenberg has a million items to offer, it should be an easier task to add the remaining 9 million items that it is estimated will become available in the public domain between 2010 and 2020. Then in its final stages Project Gutenberg will focus on collecting materials from all 100 languages, and disseminating them in other languages. So the eventual aim is to be able to offer 10 million eBooks in 100 languages to as many readers as possible.

Legal threats

RP: Project Gutenberg is restricted to inputting pre-1923 texts due to copyright law right?

MH: Yes, although around 2% of the e-texts are still in copyright. Believe it or not, with books still in copyright, the authors or copyright holders usually approach us.

In addition, most copyrights were never renewed as per US copyright law In fact, 90% of them were never renewed, so once we find out all of the renewal data, there will be more eBooks.

and then submits the e-text to Project Gutenberg. This process effectively distributes the time-consuming error correction process in an analogous way to distributed computing. It also means that it is difficult to

i mi ite the number of volunteers at any one time. 11 Moore's law is about the empirical observation, that at our rate of technological development, the complexity of an integrated circuit, with respect to minimum component cost, will double in about 18 months, http / Moore's law

RP: Can you expand on that? I understand US law was harmonised with Europe, removing the need to register or renew copyright. Are you saying that copyrights not renewed prior to the change in US law have fallen into the public domain regardless of when they were written?

MH: Up to a certain point, yes. More recent copyrights were grandfathered in to the new term, but older ones were not. So it's not always easy to figure out, even for the copyright experts/ 2

RP: What issues does copyright raise for the work of Project Gutenberg?

MH: The biggest problem is the time it takes to do the necessary copyright research before making an e-text. The next biggest is dealing with the constant threat of lawsuits, which come in every year.

RP: You get a lot of legal threats?

MH: We do. Most are just obvious smokescreens from the start — lawyerly types who expect us just to fall over in shock. I think they know they are wrong to start with, and just figure we will all crumple when they blow smoke in our direction.

However, we have a number of very highly placed copyright lawyers, and heads of school law departments, who help us. Once those threatening to sue us realise we know more about copyright than they do, and have done our research correctly, they all vanish in a puff of smoke.

But the biggest copyright problem we ever faced was after we spent nearly the entire 1980s working on an edition of Shakespeare that was expected to go into the public domain, but failed to do so when the copyright laws were changed 13 .

" As Hart indicates, these are complex matters. Today US copyrights last for seventy years after the death of an author, or seventy -five to ninety -five years in the case of works of corporate authorship and works first published before January 1, 1978. Until 1992 a copyright renewal request had to be filed with the Library of Congress Copyright Office in a work's 28th year to have copyright extended. When the need for renewal was eliminated, works that had already entered the public domain by non-renewal did not regain copyright protection So works published before 1964 that were not renewed

are public domain. Consequently some material from as recently as 1 963 has entered the public domain but some as old as 1923 remains copyrighted — if renewals were filed. In addition, when The Copyright Term Extension Act of 1 998 — alternatively known as the Sonny Bono Copyright Term Extension Act — extended copyright terms in the United States by 20 years the act also affected copyright terms for copyrighted works published prior to January 1, 1978, increasing their term of protection by 20 years as well. Under this act, no additional works made in 1 923 or afterwards that were still copyrighted in 1 998 will enter the public domain until 2019. Effectively the Sonny Bono Act 'froze' the advancement date of the public domain in the United States for works covered by the older fixed term copyright rules. Today all works published in the United States before 1923 are in the public domain, but works created before 1978 but not published until recently may still be protected until 2047.

. http://en.wil Term Extension Act

13 i.e. The Sonny Bono Copyright Term Extension Act

RP: It seems puzzling that you could be stopped from publishing a book of plays by an author who died 390 years ago. How can this happen?

MH: Because a publisher can obtain a new copyright for a new edition of Shakespeare by combining pieces from previous editions.

RP: The change in the law you refer to is the 1998 Sonny Bono Copyright Term Extension Act, which extended the length of copyright in the US by 20 years 14 ?

MH: Yes. As a result, US copyright now averages 95.5 years, and the public domain has been shrunk by one million books, not to mention the loss of magazines, newspapers, movies, and music.

RP: Certainly the Sonny Bono Act has been widely criticised, and opponents challenged its legality all the way to the Supreme Court. You were the original plaintiff in that legal challenge, but Eric Eldred subsequently replaced you. As I understand it, this was because you and Lawrence Lessig — the Stanford Law School professor who argued the case 13 — disagreed over how to conduct the matter. Specifically, you wanted to attach to the court papers a personal statement outlining your views on the greed of copyright holders. Is that correct?

MH: All I asked was that I be able to write an appendix containing my views. I simply wanted to demonstrate the magnitude of the changes, and point out that the Act had voided a social contract and replaced it with a new one. I

tried not to be inflammatory, but it's hard not to be when the public domain is being raped and pillaged right in front of you.

RP: Lessig, however, refused your request. Wired magazine 16 quoted him as saying, "Our view was that populist appeals are great, but you've got to frame a constitutional argument." In response, added Wired, you said: 'Enough — you can't use my name ".

MH: That's what I said, but not in that context. Initially Lessig said, "You're the client, you're the boss." But after I had spent five months writing draft after draft for Lessig he admitted that he would never include anything I said. That was breach of contract, and I was not willing to be a figurehead.

14 The act was named after the late Congressman Sonny Bono (who was killed in a ski accident more than nine months before the act became law), who had favoured this position as a songwriter and filmmaker even prior to his entry into politics, http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0095 1 22

15 Lawrence Lessig is an American academic. He is currently professor of law at Stanford Law School and founder of its Center for Internet and Society. He is best known as a proponent of reduced legal restrictions on copyright, trademark and radio frequency spectrum, particularly in techn log ippli itions. He is founder and chairman of the Creative Commons and a board member of the Electronic Frontier Foundation. http://eiiA rence Lessig

16 Lawrence Lessig's Supreme Showdown, Steven Levy, Wired, 10. 10, October 2002, http : //www .wired . con e/lO.lO/lessig pr.html

RP: As it turned out, the Supreme Court threw the case out, and Lessig subsequently conceded that he had overplayed the constitutional argument. Writing in Legal Affairs 1 ' in 2004, he said he now realises he would only have persuaded the justices to vote against the media companies if he had shown that "dramatic harm were being done to free speech and free culture."But do you think your approach would have been any more successful?

MH: He was wrong, and that's why we parted company. And there was no reason why we couldn't have used both approaches. However, I knew he wasn't actually trying to win, because I read every word of every draft.

RP: Can you explain what you mean?

MH: Going to SCOTUS 18 is not like the Super Bowl, where you only get the jewellery to wear if you win. Larry got his sterling silver quill pen even though he lost. I wanted to win: he was there just to make an appearance. I

told Larry I would never forgive him until after he gave me his pen.

I think Larry hurt the public domain as much as anyone ever did, including the Sonny Bono Act. Perhaps even worse, since SCOTUS won't hear another such case for a century, when 99.99% of all copyrights ever given will still be in force, and it will be too much to change back easily — so we won't have much of a public domain. You will not believe the numbers, even if you understand them.

RP: Try me. How much is being lost to the public domain as a result of the Sonny Bono Act?

MH: The answer is about $10 trillion. This is based on a calculation of just one cent per book per lifetime, and assumes only about 15% of the world are readers, and only one million books are being lost to the public domain.

RP: You say your current target for Project Gutenberg assumes 9 million items coming into the public domain by 2020. Over the next century, however, you anticipate a situation in which 99.99% of all copyrights will still be in force. In effect, you are talking about the gradual death of the public domain. Canyon talk me through that?

MH: Sure. If you take the US situation, for instance, and consider that a century ago copyrighted information was doubling roughly every 1 5 years, and that US copyright was around 15 years in duration, then you can easily compute that at any given time about 50% of all copyrights had expired — giving an even balance between the amount of copyrighted information and the amount of information in the public domain.

17 How I lost the Big One, Lawrence Lessig, March/ April 2004, http:// www.legalaffairs.org/issues/March- April-2004/story lessig marapr04.html

18 The Supreme Court of the United States

Now, ignore for the moment the impact of any copyright extensions, and consider that the doubling rate for copyrighted information has been increasing very quickly over the last century — a process that by itself increases the percentage of information under copyright, and correspondingly decreases the percentage of public domain information.

So if you assume that US copyright had stayed the same, if information were to double in around 7.5 years, then 75% of copyrights would remain unexpired at any given time. If you then assume that it is doubling in around 3.25 years, then 87.5% of copyrights remain unexpired at any given time.

So moving from a situation where around 50% of information is copyrighted to a figure of 87.5% is a world-shaking event. In fact, however, the current consensus amongst copyright authorities is that copyrightable information is now doubling at least as fast as every 3.25 years, with some estimating that it is doubling at around every 1.8 years.

Whatever the precise figure, it is widely agreed that information is growing at a very substantial rate. As a consequence, even with a constant copyright term, an ever-growing portion of all copyrightable information currently is under copyright at any given time.

RP: OK, you tested me with the numbers, and I'm going to trust your math! But what you are talking about, surely, is a product of an information explosion, not of any changes to the law ?

MH: Right. But what we face is a situation in which the rise in the percentage of copyrighted information due to growth is being compounded by the constant extension of copyright terms. Put these two elements together and you end up with a situation in which well over 90% of all copyrights ever granted are still in force.

In other words, if you combine the information explosion with the fact that the average copyright term has risen from about 15 years to around 95 years then the public domain — which was about 50% of everything every written a century ago — will fall to around 0.00001% or less just a century into the future.

RP: In reality, of course, the creators of much of this material are probably happy to have their works enter the public domain. The problem lies in the difficulty of tracing copyright owners in order to confirm that they are, in fact, the owners — a phenomenon often referred to as the "orphan works" problem 19 . If copyright owners were again required to register their copyright the problem of the shrinking public domain might be

Orphaned works are, broadly speaking, any copyrighted woi ks where the rights holder is hard to find. Because the cost of finding the owner is so high, creators cannot build on orphan works, even when they would be willing to pay to use them. In many cases the works were abandoned because they no longer produced any income. In most cases, rights holders, once found, are delighted to have their work used. Some countries have considered a compulsory license scheme for orphaned works; Canada has enacted one. ian works

partially addressed. I understand the US Copyright Office is currently looking at possible solutions like that? 20

MH: That's not an issue I have been following closely. But believe me, they will never let it happen.

Bear in mind that the Sonny Bono Act was not the only time copyright law was changed in the last century. There have now been three copyright extensions in the US in the last 100 years. In 1909 it was done to counteract the steam and electric presses; in 1976 it was done to counteract the Xerox machine; and in 1998 it was done to counteract the Internet.

As I say, the average length of copyright is now 95.5 years, which is in stark contradiction to the original idea of a 14-year copyright as created by the Statute of Anne in 1709-10 21 . The problem is that if you keep changing the copyright term before it expires, how can anyone believe in copyright?

RP: You clearly see a larger agenda here. In a previous interview 22 you said: "The Internet could be the greatest educational tool of all history, but they are trying to pass laws to keep all the great books of the last century off the Internet."

MH: Right. Just to clarify: I meant the most recent century, not the one before. But it just seems obvious to me that they would never allow that kind of power into the hands of the public, no matter how much they hypocritically talk about "universal education."

RP: Who are "they"? Do you mean governments, or large media companies?

MH: Both: the media lobbies wholly controlled the Sonny Bono Act. You probably don't realise that the passage of that law was hidden behind one of the biggest smokescreens of all time: the impeachment of President Clinton. The Republicans knew they couldn't win, but they passed the copyright law in the same 24 hours as the articles of impeachment.

And this is not just about profits. Do you think the best sellers from 70 years ago are really going to make more than 1% additional profits from 20 more years of government and WIPO 23 -sponsored monopoly? No, the aim is to stop alternatives to new "pay to read" publishing models, to kill the public domain, and to remove us from control of our histories.

Project Gutenberg, by the way, is not just a distributor of eBooks; it's a lever for "The Neo-Industrial Revolution."

20 The US copyright office recently submitted its 200-page report on orphan works to the US Senate. This report, along with much supplementary material, is now available online at: http://www.copyright.gov/orphan

21 The Statute of Ann was the first copyright law in Britain, enacted in 1709 and entering into force on April 10, 1710. It is generally considered to be the first fully -fledged copyright law. It is named for Queen Anne, during whose reign it was enacted. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Statute of Anne

22 Netpanel, 1997, htt] usc/mikehart.htm

23 World Intellectual Property Organisation

The Neo-Industrial Revolution

RP: What is the Neo-Iiuhistrial Revolution?

MH: In 1455 Johannes Gutenberg introduced the idea of moveable type, and thus interchangeable parts. In doing so he started the industrial revolution. Project Gutenberg is the first primitive example of a replicator, and so the start of the Neo-Industrial Revolution, which is tied to the computer in the way the Industrial Revolution, was tied to interchangeable parts.

RP: This term replicator comes from Star Trek I think 24 . Replicators were machines capable of converting energy into matter and vice versa, and so able to copy any inanimate matter by rearranging subatomic particles.

MH: Right. And today you can digitise something and put it anywhere on the Internet — be it an eBook, a song, or a picture of The Mona Lisa. And a minute after it is posted, anyone on the Net can, for the rest of history, download it.

So we are moving from a “limited distribution” model to an “unlimited distribution” model. As we enter the Neo-Industrial Revolution we will see more and more things being digitally copied. Eventually practically everything will be digitisable and copyable, and so part of the replicator system.

RP: Digitisation is about copying information, not inanimate matter, isn’t it?

MH: Are you aware how many three dimensional things can be made via the new technology of “stereolithography? 25” Are you aware that 3D “printers” 26 have been around for two decades?

RP: Well I’ve seen you elsewhere 27 claim that 30 years from now we might be able to “print out” a wide vane it of physical materials. I recall a particular quote in which you

24 http://en.-» lki/Replicator (Star Trek)

25 Stereolithography is one of the more commonly used rapid manufacturing and rapid prototyping technologies. It involves building plastic parts a layer at a time by tracing a laser beam on the surface of a vat of liquid photopolymer. The photopolymer is solidified by the laser light. Once one layer is completely traced, it is lowered a small distance into the liquid and a subsequent layer is traced, adhering to the previous layer. After many such layers are traced, a complete 3D model is formed. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stereolithography

26 Three-dimensional printing (more commonly referred to the abbreviation 3DP) is a type of rapid prototyping system developed by MIT in the late 1980s. Using an adapted inkjet printing system, layers of a fine powder (either corn flour or plaster) are selectively bonded by "printing" a water-based adhesive from the inkjet print head in the shape of each cross-section as determined by a CAD (computer aided design) file. Alternately, these machines feed liquids into individual jetting heads, which squirt tiny droplets as they are scanned to form a layer of the model. The liquid hardens after being deposited. Once a single layer has been deposited, a milling head may be employed to ensure uniform thickness before the next layer is deposited, http : //en. wikipedia . or g/wiki/3D printer

27 Umted Press International, 2002, httrj ■m/view.cfm?StoryID = 28052002-120328-3546r

said that it -would be possible to "print" a car, and then get into that car and drive it away. This is all rather far fetched, isn't it?

MH: Think about it this way: initially computers had only 2 colours, then 4 colours, 16 colours, 32 colours, 128 colours, 256 colours, and now all seem to have a minimum of 16 million colours.

Printers can follow the same evolution. We already have the Crayon- Jet Printer, which is fed by simple crayons available at stores all over the world extremely inexpensively.

RP: How do these printers work?

MH: You tear the paper off the crayons and feed them into hoppers in the printer. The tip of the crayon is heated and jetted on to a paper or cardboard surface, layer after layer, and eventually builds up to the desired 3D surface. So a printer that "prints" in a 100th inch layer would take 100 passes to "print" a map for a relief scale of one inch, or whatever you programmed.

So you can imagine that in the educational context you could print out all the planets for an astronomy class, and make them to exactly the right scale

and colour. You could print out famous statues for art class, famous paintings, sculptures, or city blocks, complete with trees, and cars, and people. The possibilities are endless!

RP: That's still a long stretch from printing a car and driving it away.

MH: If the materials used with 3D printers can double as fast as the number of colours for computers, then we will have 3D printers that can print with millions of materials in just 20 years. In addition, nanotech "printers" will be creating more and more 3D materials, which will give us even more possibilities.

RP: Well, I realise that many believe "nano-printing" will enable the very cheap mass production of nano-devices 28 . But what you seem to be implying is nano assembly, in which objects would be built atom by atom. This is all somewhat theoretical today, isn't it?

MH: Not only is it possible, but I think it is probable — even within the lifetime of people living now. And it will allow near costless construction, and unlimited distribution.

RP: What you are saying then is that physical objects will become more like digital information. That is, you will be able to copy them as effortlessly and limitlessly as it is now possible to copy an eBook, or, indeed, as simply as Napster copied songs. That is what you mean by unlimited distribution?

MH: Yes

• http://www.eu

RP: So where today the cost of producing goods lies primarily in the raw materials, and the cost of manufacturing, in the world you envisage most of the cost, or value, would lie in simply knowing how to make them, or having access to the necessary tools?

MH: Right. However, given that civilisation as we know it has been based on a structure of limited distribution, the idea of unlimited distribution is going to be fought tooth and nail.

RP: And the way to fight it would be to use the intellectual property system to limit the right to make the goods, or use the tools to make them, and so create artificial scarcity and limited distribution?

MH: Exactly. In a virtual world it's less a question of ownership in the traditional sense, but who has control. So the future will be a choice between

unlimited distribution and an end to scarcity; or limited distribution and a world in which artificial controls are placed on the potential for unlimited distribution.

RP: If you are right, then today's disputes over the ownership of information and intellectual property are simply a dress rehearsal for a more profound struggle.

MH: Absolutely. It will surely lead to a war between a proprietary rentier 29 economy, and those who support the Neo-Industrial Revolution, which promises a world in which everyone can have everything.

RP: The development of the Internet is clearly leading to a growing conflict between proprietary interests and supporters of a more communal approach. Do you see Project Gutenberg as part of a n k >pen, or free, information?

MH: No, I don't see Project Gutenberg as part of any movement; we just give away eBooks; if other people latch on to some of our principles, or principal ideas, that's just great.

RP: Nevertheless, the aims of the various open and free movements that have developed seem very similar to those that we are discussing in relation to Project Gutenberg. I'm thinking about the Free and Open Source Software movements, the Open Access movement, Open Spectrum, and Creative Commons. Do you take an interest in these other movements?

MH: I am aware of them to some degree, but not influenced by them, as they are much more political than I have any intention of being.

RP: You don't see Project Gutenberg as apolitical cause then?

' A person who lives on income from property or investments

MH: No. I am apolitical, to the point of being anti-political. I don't believe in the modern political process at all.

RP: The mission statement of Project Gutenberg is to "break down the bars of ignorance and illiteracy." Does that not imply a wish to empower people politically by giving them free books?

MH: Breaking down the bars of ignorance and illiteracy is only political if someone else is trying to keep them up! A political statement tries to set policy; I don't set policy. I just try to lead by example. eBooks are revolutionary in the non-political sense, and yet they could change the world as much as the Gutenberg Press did.

RP: So what is the aim of Project Gutenberg?

MH: Project Gutenberg is about education and literacy, and providing a level playing field. I don't try to change people; I try to change the information infrastructure. We make eBooks and give them away. We don't choose which books or where they should go. What people do with them is totally up to them.

A dozen other formats

RP: Has the disappointing take-up of dedicated eBook readers led you to put a greater emphasis on other platforms?

MH: No. We don't put any emphasis on platforms. We try to make our eBooks work on as many combinations of hardware and software as possible. So you'd have to find a very specialised computer system to find one that would not read nearly all Project Gutenberg eBooks.

RP: You have also made a point of always ensuring that — whatever other formats might be provided — there is always a plain ASCII file available, right?

MH: We have. Plain ASCII 30 is still what people seem to use most, along with HTML — so most files are available in HTML and plain text. "Read-aloud programs 31" work best with plain text for instance, as does changing the font size. Many visually challenged people love the Project Gutenberg eBooks for this reason: they have control over how the book looks, and how it works in text-to-speech programs; control they don't have with other kinds of eBooks.

30 ASCII (American Standard Code for Information Interchange), is a character encoding based on the English alphabet. ASCII codes represent text in computers, communications equipment, and other devices that work with text. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ASCII

31 Read-aloud software includes text-to-speech reading programs that can read aloud text that has been saved using a regular word processor, highlighting, and simultaneously reading aloud each word. Many are designed specifically for people with a learning disability, or for people who struggle to read text. http://www n/2002/octl.htm

But we also have a dozen other formats available, including MobiPocket and Palm files, Word files, PDF, and a variety of music, image, and markup formats. This means that people can use notebook computers, PDAs, and now even cell phones. Just about a week ago I got an email from Africa telling me

how people were both reading and listening to eBooks on their cell phones there. It's hard to believe, but when you are out on the Serengeti plains 34 , you still get cell phone service.

The point is that there are billions of cell phones out there; billions of laptops, and billions of desktops. There are not even millions of eBook readers. The results are obvious — percentage wise, no one is reading on dedicated readers.

RP: And you now also offer DVDs on which the books are available not as text, but with each page captured as an image. This includes "The Million Dollar DVD" and "The Second Million Dollar DVD". Can you explain the titles?

MH: The message is that the average hardback book this year will be over $40. So 30,000 eBooks on a single plain DVD contains a million dollars worth of books — about the same number as the average US public library. We, however, will offer this free of charge, as we do with all our products.

RP: And the < >/i you offer is growing too. You host human genome data,

for instance, and there is also something called the Gutenberg radio project.

MH: We have three editions of the Human Genome Project online 33 . G-Radio 36 is basically just audio eBooks. We will also be adding more multimedia eBooks, paintings, sculptures, music, movies, etc. In addition, there are newspapers, magazines, and the various other types of media.

A different kind of power

RP: How much hands-on work do you still do for Project Gutenberg?

MH: Sadly, I've been relegated to coordination and management now, although I still write the weekly newsletter. Nevertheless, it is still more than a full-time job for me.

" ' http://ww Ic meP a ge/def ault . a sp

33 http://ebooks.palm.com

34 Serengeti is a region of grasslands and woodlands in Africa shared between the countries of Tanzania ii the south and Kenya in the north. The whole region is spread over around thirty thousand square kilometres. Eighty percent of this region lies in Tanzania. http://en viki/Serengeti

35 e.g. http://www.gutt xt/11799

RP: Do you get a salary from the Project Gutenberg Literary Archive Foundation, which was founded, I believe, in 2000?

MH: No. We don't attract enough funding for that.

RP: So what do you live on today?

MH: It's been two years since my last pay check, but if you save all your salary when you do get one, $100,000 will go 10 years with no salary, at $10,000 a year.

RP: And when the savings run out?

MH: I don't expect to let them run out. I'll either be out of commission, or have brought in more money by then. The fact is that I have just never dealt with money all that much in my whole life. Money was never a big thing for me. I'm into a different kind of power. Since I never spend much, and save everything, money isn't an issue at all.

I know that sounds odd to most people, but I just never bought into the money system all that much. I never spent it when I got it. It's all a matter of perspective; most people spend the vast majority of their money on things I just don't care about. The only time I notice it is if I think of buying a new house.

RP: So you lead a somewhat Spartan lifestyle?

MH: Well, it's hard for me to spend $10 on dinner; the average is well under $5. I have no cable or cell phone. I ride a bicycle most of the time, and I only buy a car when I am faced with a long trip and the cost is too high; then I buy a cheap one, make the trip, and then make it last a couple more years.

I also wear garage sale clothes; in fact I live just about totally on garage sales 37 , and living in a university town, I find there are sometimes over 200 garage sales on a single day. Garage sales also offer a great chance to just meet people all over town, and paw through their stuff, and talk about everything. I also go to them wherever I travel: it helps me find out about the people who live there, and bring back souvenirs, etc.

RP: Let's leave it on that note. Thank you for talking to me.

MH: You are most welcome.

5 2006 Richard Poynder

- . ii i . il i al I nown as a yard sale, rummage sale, or jumble sale) is an informal, irregularly scheduled marketplace of used household goods, typically sold by one or at most a few families. In some communities there are designated days every year in which “block sales” are allowed, so that people don’t have to get the required permits or collect sales tax irage sale

This interview is distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-Non-commercial-No- Derivatives Licence (http:// creativecommons.Org/licenses/by-nc-nd/2.0/). This permits you to copy and distribute it as you wish, so long as you credit me as the author, do not alter or transform the text, and do not use it for any commercial purpose.

If you would like to republish the article on a commercial basis, or have any comments on it, please email me at richard.poynderfSjjournalist.co.uk .

Please note that while I make this interview freely available to all, I am a freelance journalist by profession, and so make my living from writing. To assist me to continue making my work available in this way I invite anyone who reads this interview to make a voluntary contribution. I have in mind a figure of $8, but whatever anyone felt inspired to contribute would be fine. This can be done quite simply by sending a payment to my PayPal account quoting the email address aotg20@dsl-pipex.com.

I would like to acknowledge the help of the Open Society In winch provided a small upfront grant to

enable me to get started on The Basement Interviews project.

Further information about The Basement Interviews can be found at my blog Open and Shut?

^***.* History of the Internet

A Brief History of the Internet

Title: ^***.* History of the Internet

Author: Michael Hart Maxwell Fuller

Release date: April 1, 1995 [eBook #250] Most recently updated: March 17, 2012

Language: English

Other information and formats: www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/250

Credits: Produced by Michael Hart

*** START OF THE PROJECT GUTENBERG EBOOK ^***. *HISTORY OF THE INTERNET* **

^***.* History of the Internet The Bright Side: The Dark Side by Michael Hart with Max Fuller

(C)1995, Released on March 8th, 1995

Chapter 00 Preface

The Internet Conquers Space, Time, and Mass Production…

Michael Hart called it NeoMass Production [TM] in 1971… and published the U.S. Declaration of Independence on the and no one was listening…or were they? ???careful!!!! If the governments, universities or colleges of the world wanted people to be educated, they certainly could have a copy of things like the Declaration of Independence where everyone could get an electronic copy. After all, it has been over 25 years since the Internet began as government funded projects among our universities, and only 24 years since the Declaration was posted, followed by the Bill of Rights, Constitution, the Bible, Shakespeare, etc.

Why do more people get their electronic books from others than these institutions when they spend a TRILLION DOLLAR BUDGET EVERY YEAR

pretending their goal is some universal form of education.

This is the story of the Bright Side and Dark Side of the Internet. . .Bright Side first.

The Facts:

The Internet is a primitive version of the “Star Trek Communicator,” the “Star Trek Transporter,” and, also a primitive version of the “Star Trek Replicator.”

Communicator

The Internet “let’s” you talk to anyone on the Earth, as long as they, too, are on the Internet.

Transporter

The Internet “let’s” you transport anything you would be able to get into your computer to any Netter.

Replicator

The Internet “let’s” you replicate anything anyone is able to get into their computer, from “The Mona Lisa” to “The Klein Bottle” if you use the right “printer,” and the library never closes, the books are always on the shelves, never checked out, lost, in for binding, and there is never an overdue fine because you never, ever, have to take them back.

The Bright Side and the Dark Side

For the first time in the entire history of the Earth, we have the ability for EVERYONE to get copies of EVERYTHING as long as it can be digitized and communicated to all of the people on the Earth, via computers [and the devices a person might need to make a PHYSICAL, rather than VIRTUAL copy of whatever it might be. . .

Think about what you have just read for a moment, please, EVERYTHING FOR EVERYONE. . .

as long as the Information Superhighway is not taken over by the INFORMATION RICH and denied access to others other than for a fee they may not be able to pay, and shouldn’t have to pay. . .since the INFORMATION RICH have had rides for free for the first 25 years of the Internet.]

From 1969 to 1994, most of the traffic on the Information Superhighway was generated by individuals who did not pay tolls to get on the ramps to the Information Superhighway . . .in fact, ALL of the early users were paid to get on, except one. . .they were paid. . .BY YOU!

Michael Hart may have been the first person who got on as a private individual, not paid by any of the 23 nodes, or the Internet/ARPANet system, for his work; but who at the time of this publication might have given away 25 billion worth of Etexts in return for his free network access.

[i.e. Mr. Hart was the first "normal" person to have this access to the Internet, a first non-computer-professional for social responsibility; "We should provide information to all persons, without delay. . .simply because WE CAN!" Just like climbing Mount Everest or going into space, and this is so much cheaper and less dangerous.

[For those of you considering asking that his accesses be revoked, he has received permission from CCSO management, previously CSO as indicated in his email address, for the posting of this document and has also received permission from several other colleges and/or universities, at which he has computer accounts and/or is affiliated.]

In the beginning, all the messages on the Net were either hardware or software crash messages, people looking for a helping hand in keeping their mainframes up and running– and that was about it for the first 10-15 years of cyber- space. . .cyber-space. . .mostly just space. . .there was nothing really in it for anyone, but mainframe operators, programmers, and a few computer consultants who worked in multi-state regions because there weren't enough computer installations in any single state, not even California or Illinois, to keep a computer consultant in business.

The Bright Side

Mr. Hart had a vision in 1971 that the greatest purpose a computer network would ever provide would be the storage, transmission, and copying of the library of information a whole planet of human beings would generate. These ideas were remarkably ahead of their time, as attested to by an Independent Plans of Study Degree in the subject of Human Machine Interfaces from the University of Illinois, 1973. This degree, and the publications of the first few Etexts [Electronic Texts] on the Internet, began the process the Internet now knows as Project Gutenberg, which has caught fire and spread to all areas of the Internet, and spawned several generations of "Information Providers," as we now have come to call them.

It is hard to log in to the Internet without finding many references to Project

Gutenberg and Information Providers these days, but you might be surprised just how much of a plethora of information stored on the Internet is only on line for LIMITED DISTRIBUTION even though the information is actually in the PUBLIC DOMAIN and has been paid for in money paid by your taxes, and by grants, which supposedly are given for the betterments of the human race, not just a favored few at the very top 1% of the INFORMATION RICH.

Many of you have seen the publicity announcements of such grants in the news media, and an information professional sees them all the time.

You may have seen grants totalling ONE BILLION DOLLARS to create "Electronic Libraries;" what you haven't seen is a single "Electronic Book" released into the Public Domain, in any form for you to use, from any one of these.

The Dark Side

Why don't you see huge electronic libraries available for download from the Internet?

Why are the most famous universities in the world working on electronic libraries and you can't read the books?

If it costs $1,000 to create an electronic book through a government or foundation grant, then $1,000,000,000 funds for electronic libraries should easily create a 1,000,000 volume electronic library in no time at all.

After all, if someone paid YOU $1,000 to type, scan or to otherwise get a public domain book onto the Internet, you could do that in no time at all, and so could one million other people, and they could probably do it in a week, if they tried really hard, maybe in a month if they only did it in their spare time. For $1,000 per book, I am sure a few people would be turning out a book a week for as long as it took to get all million books into electronic text.

There has been perhaps ONE BILLION DOLLARS granted for an electronic library in a variety of places, manners, types and all other diversities; IF THE COST IS ONE THOUSAND OF THOSE DOLLARS TO CREATE A SINGLE ELECTRONIC BOOK, THEN WE SHOULD HAVE ONE MILLION BOOKS ONLINE FOR EVERYONE TO USE.

HOW HAS THIS PROCESS BEEN STOPPED?

Anyone who wants to stop this process for a Public Domain Library of information is probably suffering from several of the Seven Deadly Sins:

Pride, covetousness, lust, anger, greed, envy, and sloth. Merriam Webster Third International Unabridged Dictionary [Above: Greed = Gluttony, and moved back one place]

[Below: my simple descriptions of the Seven Deadly Sins]

1. Pride: I have one and you don't.

2. Covetousness: Mine is worth more if you don't have a copy or something similar. I want yours. I want the one you have, even if I already have one or many.

3. Lust: I have to have it.

4. Anger: I will hurt you to ensure that I have it, and and to ensure that you do not have one.

5. Envy: I hate that you have one.

6. Greed: There is no end to how much I want, or to how little I want you to have in comparison.

7. Sloth: I am opposed to you moving up the ladder: it means that I will have to move up the ladder, to keep my position of lordship over you. If I have twice as much as you do, and you gain a rung, that means I can only regain my previous lordship by moving up two; it is far easier to knock you back a rung, or to prevent you from climbing at all.

   Destruction is easier than construction.

   This becomes even more obvious for the person who has a goal of being 10 or 100 times further up the ladder of success. . .given the old, and hopefully obsolete, or soon to be obsolete, definitions of success.

   "If I worked like a fiend all my life to ensure I had a thousand dollars for every dollar you had, and then someone came along and wanted to give everyone $1000, then I would be forced to work like a fiend again, to get another million dollars to retain my position."

Think about it: someone spends a lifetime achieving, creating, or otherwise investing their life, building a talent, an idea, or a physical manifestation of the life they have led. . .the destruction of this is far easier than the construction. . .just as the building of a house is much more difficult, requires training, discipline, knowledge of the laws of physics to get a temperature and light balance suitable for latitudes, etc., etc., etc.

But nearly anyone can burn down a building, or a pile of books without a fraction of this kind of training.

People are used to lording it over others by building and writing certain items that reflect their lordship over themselves, their environments, and, last/least, over other people. If they were not engaged in power over themselves [self-discipline, education, etc,] or over their environments [food, clothing and shelter], then they have only other people to have control over and that is the problem. They don't want other people to have it easier than they did. "If *I* did it with the hard ways and tools of the past, then *YOU* would threaten me if you use some easier ways and tools the present has to offer, and *I* don't want to learn the new tools, since I have invested my whole life to the mastery of the old tools." I have literally met very highly placed souls in the system of higher education who have told me they will quit the system on the day they have to use email because it removes the control they used to have over physical meetings, phone calls and the paper mails. It is just too obvious if a big wig is not answering your email, since email programs can actually tell you the second it was delivered and also the second the person "opened" it.

This is why SOME people fear the new Internet: other people fear it NOT because they lose the kind of lord position that comes with OWNERSHIP; rather they fear, in a similar manner, they will lose the CONTROL which they have used to achieve their position of lordship, such as one kind of professor mentioned below.

```
*****As Hart's DOS prompt sometimes states:*****

"Money is how people with no talent keep score!"
```

"Control is how others with no money keep score!"

These Seven Deadly Sins, while named by various names and by most civilizations, have nonetheless often been actual laws; in that certain people were required, by law, to be victims of the rest of their populations in that a person might be legally denied ownership of any property, due to racism or sexism, or denied the right to a contract, even legally denied the ability to read and write, not just an assortment of rights to vote, contract and own property– there have even been laws that forbade any but the "upper crust" to wear certain types of clothing, a "statement of fashion" of a slightly different order than we see today, but with similar ends.

You might want to look up laws that once divided this and other countries by making it illegal to teach any persons of certain races or genders reading, writing, arithmetic, and others of the ways human beings learn to have a

power over their environments.

Power over oneself is the first kind of power…if you do not control yourself, you will find difficulty in control of anything.

Power over the environment is the second kind of power… if you do not control food, clothing and shelter, you are going to have a hard time controlling anything else.

Power over other human being is the third kind of power– described above in the Seven Deadly Sins, a third raters' kind of power. Those who cannot control anything else… must, by definition, have others control things for them. If they don't want to depend on the voluntary cooperation of others, then they must find some way to control them.

We are now seeing the efforts by those who couldn't BUILD the Internet to control it, and the 40 million people who are on it; people from the goverment to big business, who feel "Freedom Is Slavery" or at least dangerous; and, who feel the Internet is the "NEXT COMMERCIAL FRONTIER" where customers are all ready to be inundated with advertising, more cheaply than with junkmail. Fortunately some of the other Internet pioneers have developed ways of preventing this sort of thing from happening BUT I am sure we aren't far from lawsuits by the cash rich and information rich, complaining that they can't get their junkemail into "my" emailbox. We will probably all be forced to join into an assortment of "protectives" in which we subscribe to such "killbots" as are required to let in the mail we want and keep out the junkemail.

These same sorts of protectives were forming a century or so before the Internet, in a similar response to the hard monopolistic pricing policies of the railroads which went transcontinental just 100 years before this Internet did.

I suggest you look up Grange in your encyclopedias, where one of them says:

"The National Grange is the popular name of the Order of the Patrons of Husbandry, the oldest general farm organization in the United States. . .formed largely through the efforts of Oliver Hudson Kelley, a Minnesota farmer who was deeply affected by the poverty and isolation of the farmers he saw will inspecting farm areas in the South for the U.S. Department of Agriculture in 1866. In the 1870's the Grange was prominent in the broader Granger movement, which campaigned against extortionate charges by monopolistic railroads and warehouses and helped bring about laws regulating these charges. . . . Although challenged, the constitutionality of such laws was upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court in Munn v. Illinois (1877).

[1994 Grolier Electronic Enyclcopedia]

The Internet Conquers Space, Time and Mass Production

The Internet is a primitive version of the “Star Trek Communicator,” the “Star Trek Transporter,” and, also a primitive version of the “Star Trek Replicator.”

The Internet “let’s” you talk to anyone on the Earth, as long as they, too, are on the Internet.

The Internet “let’s” you transport anything you would be able to get into your computer to any Netter.

The Internet “let’s” you replicate anything anyone is able to get into their computer, from “The Mona Lisa” to “The Klein Bottle” if you use the right “printer.”

Don’t forget the “SneakerNet” is part of the Internet and let’s you get information to or from those who do not have direct Internet connections. SneakerNet was a term developed to describe the concept of sending a file to someone nearby the person you wanted, and the person would then put on his/her sneakers and run the disk down the street for you. From my experience, it was incredibly obvious that SneakerNet traversed from East to West and West to East around the world before the Internet did, as I received letters from the East and West as the Project Gutenberg Alice in Wonderland Etext circled the globe long before the Internet did.

This is very important to know if you consider that a possible future development might keep you from using the Internet for this, due to socio-political motions to turn the Internet into a “World Wide Mall” [WWM] a term coined specifically to describe that moneymaking philosophy that says “Even if it has been given away, free of charge, to 90% of the users for 25 years, our goal is to make sure we change it from an Information Superhighway to an Information Supertollway.

I said “let’s” you do the Star Trek Communicator, and Transporter, and Replicator functions because it will soon be obvious that those “Information Rich” who had free access to the Internet for so long want to do an Internet Monopoly thing to ensure that what was free, to the Information Rich, will no longer be free for a class of the Information Poor.

This is serious business, and if you consider that it would cost the 40 million Netters about $25 per month to “subscribe” to the Information Rich version of the Internet, that means one thousand million dollars per month going into

the hands of the Information Rich at the expense of the Information Poor; we would shortly be up to our virtual ears in a monopoly that would be on the order of the one recently broken up in a major anti-trust and anti-monopoly actions against the hand of the telephone company.

Hopefully, if we see it coming we can prevent it now, but it will take far more power than *I* have.

People will tell you "No one can own the Internet!"– but the fact is that while you may own your computer, you do not "Own the Internet" any more than owning my own telephones or PBX exchanges means I own telephone networks that belong to The Telephone Companies. The corporations that own the physical wires and cabling, they are the ones who own the Internet, and right now that system is being sold to The Telephone Companies, and your "rights" to the Information Superhighway are being sold with them.

The goal of giving 10,000 books to everyone on Earth, which we at Project Gutenberg have been trying to do, virtually since the start of the Internet, is in huge danger of becoming just another tool for those we are becoming enslaved by on the Internet, and these books might never get into the high schools: much less the middle schools and grade schools because the Trillion dollars we spend on educations with the rise and fall of every Congress of the United States isn't meant to educate, it is meant for something else. After all– if a Trillion dollars were really being spent on this process of education every two years, should literacy rates have plummeted to 53% and college level testing scores fallen for many straight years?

[Oh yes, I heard yesterday's report the tests were up for the first time in decades. . .but what I did NOT! hear was ANY reference to the fact that the score was "inflated" not only by the "normal" free 200 points a person gets for just being able to sign their names– but by an additional 22 points for math, 76 verbal.] [Written February 5th, 1995]

This kind of "grade inflation" has been going on in a similar, though less official manner, in our schools, for decades. There are schools in which the averages indicate more "A"s are given out than all other grade points combined, not just more "A"s than "B"s or "B"s than "C"s. Some of the most importanted studies were never published, even though they were tax funded.

Watch out, the term "grade inflation" is "politically incorrect" to such a degree that it does not appear a single time in any of the encyclopedias I have tried, although it does appear in my Random House Unabridged and College Dictionaries, but not the Merriam-Webster Ninth New College

Dictionary, American Heritage or in any other references I have searched. Please tell me if you find it in any.

“The awarding of higher grades than students deserve either to maintain a school’s academic reputation or as a result of diminished teacher expectations.” [1980-1985]

I can personally tell you this was a huge concern in 1970-1975 when the average grade at some colleges in question had already passed the point mentioned just above, yielding averages including all undergraduate courses, including the grades of “flunk-outs,” still higher than a “B” which means more “A”s were given a whole undergraduate student body than “B”s and “C”s. [Actually it means worse than that, but point made.]

So, we reached the point at which large numbers of a nation’s high school graduates couldn’t even read or fill out a minimum wage job application form, while, on paper, we were doing better than ever, excepting, thank God, the fact that testing scores showed there was something incredibly wrong, and businesses would notice they were having to interview more people for a job before they could find someone to fill it.

This is what happens when we separate a country into the “Information Rich” and the “Information Poor.”

Don’t let it happen to the entire world.

For the first time in ALL history, we have the chance to ensure that every person can put huge amounts of “Public Domain” and other information into computers that should be as inexpensive as calculators in a few more years. I would like to ensure these people actually have material to put in those computers when they get them.

Example:

Some Shakespeare professors believe that the way to be a great Shakespeare professor is to know something about a Shakespeare play or poem that no one else knows.

Therefore they never tell anyone, and that knowledge can quite possibly die with them if it is never published in a wide manner. Example: Damascus steel was famous, for hundreds of years, but the knowledge of how to make this steel was so narrowly known that all those who knew that technique died without passing it on, and it was a truly long time before computer simulations finally managed to recreate Damascus steel after all those centuries when a person had to buy an antique to get any.

Some other Shakespeare professors believe that the way a person should act to be a great Shakespeare professor is to teach as many people as possible about Shakespeare in as complete a manner as they want to learn.

The Internet is balancing on this same dichotomy now….

Do we want Unlimited Distribution…

Or do we want to continue with Limited Distribution?

The French have just given us one of the great examples: a month or so ago [I am writing this in early February.] they found a cave containing the oldest known paintings, twice as old as any previously discovered, and after the initial month of photographing them in secret, placed an electronic set of photographs on the Internet for all of us to have. . .ALL!

This is in GREAT contradistinction to the way things had been done around the time I was born, when the "Dead Sea Scrolls" were discovered, and none of you ever saw them, or any real description of them, until a few years ago– in case you are wondering when, I was born in 1947; this is being published on my 48th birthday when I officially become "old." [As a mathematician, I don't cheat, and I admit that if you divide a 72 year lifespan into equals, you only get 24 years to be young, 24 years to be middle aged, and 24 years to be old. . .after that you have the odds beaten. If you divide the US into young and old, a person has to be considered "old" at 34, since 33 is the median age [meaning half the people are younger than 33, and half the people are older. The median Internet age? 26. Median Web age 31. Some predictions indicate these will decrease until the median Internet age is 15.

Who will rule the Internet?

Will it be the Internet Aristocrats…

or an Internet Everyman?

The difference is whether the teacher or scholar lording it over others is our example, or the teacher or scholar who teaches as well and as many as possible. We SAY our people should have and must have universal education yet with test scores and literacy rates in a tailspin it can obvious that we have anything BUT a widest universalness of primary and secondary education program in mind. Not to leave out college education, which has been known for the graduation of people who were totally illiterate.

For the first time we actually have an opportunity for a whole world's population to share not only air or water, but also to share the world of

ideas, of art or of music and other sounds. . .anything that can be digitized.

Do you remember what the first protohumans did in “2001” [the movie by Stanley Kubrick and Arthur C. Clark] ?

They chased their neighbors away from the water hole.

Will let the Thought Police chase us away from this huge watering hole, just so they can charge us admission, for something our tax dollars have already paid for?

The Internet Conquers Space, Time and Mass Production…

Think of the time and effort people save simply by being able to consult a dictionary, an encyclopedia, thesaurus or other reference book, a newspaper or magazine library of vast proportions, or a library of a thousand books of the greatest works of all history without even having to get up and go to the bookcase.

Think of the simple increase in education just because a person can and will look up more information, judgements become sharper and more informed….

Unless someone believes that good judgement, an informed population, and their effects are their enemies, it is a difficult stretch to understand why certain institutions and people want to limit this flow of information.

Yet a great number of our institutions, and even some of the people who run them, are against this kind of easily available information…they either want to control it– or they want to maintain their “leadership” in fields of endeavor by making sure we “have to do it the hard way,” simply because they did it the hard way.

There is no longer any reason to “do it the hard way” as you will see below, and on the Internet.

End of the Preface to “^***.* History of the Internet.”

Chapter 0

Introduction

Michael Hart is trying to change Human Nature.

He says Human Nature is all that is stopping the Internet from saving the world.

The Internet, he says, is a primitive combination of Star Trek communicators, transporters and replicators; and can and will bring nearly everything to nearly everyone.

“I type in Shakespeare and everyone, everywhere, and from now until the end of history as we know it–everyone will have a copy instantaneously, on request. Not only books, but the pictures, paintings, music. . .anything that will be digitized. . .which will eventually include it all. A few years ago I wrote some articles about 3-D replication [Stereographic Lithography] in which I told of processes, in use today, that videotaped and played back fastforward on a VCR, look just like something appearing in Star Trek replicators. Last month I saw an article about a stove a person could program from anyhere on the Internet. . .you could literally `fax someone a pizza' or other meals, the`faxing a pizza’ being a standard joke among Internetters for years, describing one way to tell when the future can be said to have arrived.”

For a billion or so people who own or borrow computers it might be said “The Future Is Now” because they can get at 250 Project Gutenberg Electronic Library items, including Shakespeare, Beethoven, and Neil Armstrong landing on the Moon in the same year the Internet was born.

This is item #250, and we hope it will save the Internet, and the world. . .and not be a futile, quixotic effort.

Let’s face it, a country with an Adult Illiteracy Rate of 47% is not nearly as likely to develop a cure for AIDS as a country with an Adult Literacy Rate of 99%.

However, Michael Hart says the Internet has changed a lot in the last year, and not in the direction that will take the Project Gutenberg Etexts into the homes of the 47% of the adult population of the United States that is said to be functionally illiterate by the 1994 US Report on Adult Literacy. He has been trying to ensure that there is not going to be an “Information Rich” and “Information Poor,” as a result of a Feudal Dark Ages approach to this coming “Age of Information”. . .he has been trying since 1971, a virtual “First Citizen” of the Internet since he might be the first person on the Internet who was NOT paid to work on the Internet/ARPANet or its member computers.

Flashback

In either case, he was probably one of the first 100 on a fledgling Net and certainly the first to post information of a general nature for others on the Net to download; it was the United States’ Declaration of Independence. This

was followed by the U.S. Bill of Rights, and then a whole Etext of the U.S. Constitution, etc. You might consider, just for the ten minutes the first two might require, the reading of the first two of these documents that were put on the Internet starting 24 years ago: and maybe reading the beginning of the third.

The people who provided his Internet account thought this whole concept was nuts, but the files didn't take a whole lot of space, and the 200th Anniversary of the Revolution [of the United States against England] was coming up, and parchment replicas of all the Revolution's Documents were found nearly everywhere at the time. The idea of putting the Complete Works of Shakespeare, the Bible, the Q'uran, and more on the Net was still pure Science Fiction to any but Mr. Hart at the time. For the first 17 years of this project, the only responses received were of the order of "You want to put Shakespeare on a computer!? You must be NUTS!" and that's where it stayed until the "Great Growth Spurt" hit the Internet in 1987-88. All of a sudden, the Internet hit "Critical Mass" and there were enough people to start a conversation on nearly any subject, including, of all things, electronic books, and, for the first time, Project Gutenberg received a message saying the Etext for everyone concept was a good idea.

That watershed event caused a ripple effect. With others finally interested in Etext, a "Mass Marketing Approach," and such it was, was finally appropriate, and the release of Alice in Wonderland and Peter Pan signalled beginnings of a widespread production and consumption of Etexts. In Appendix A you will find a listing of these 250, in order of their release.

Volunteers began popping up, right on schedule, to assist in the creation or distribution of what Project Gutenberg hoped would be 10,000 items by the end of 2001, only just 30 years after the first Etext was posted on the Net.

Flash Forward

Today there are about 500 volunteers at Project Gutenberg and they are spread all over the globe, from people doing their favorite book then never being heard from again, to PhD's, department heads, vice-presidents, and lawyers who do reams of copyright research, and some who have done in excess of 20 Etexts pretty much by themselves; appreciate is too small a word for how Michael feel about these, and tears would be the only appropriate gesture.

There are approximately 400 million computers today, with the traditional 1% of them being on the Internet, and the traditional ratio of about 10 users per Internet node has continued, too, as there are about 40 million people on

a vast series of Internet gateways. Ratios like these have been a virtual constant through Internet development.

If there is only an average of 2.5 people on each of 400M computers, that is a billion people, just in 1995. There will probably be a billion computers in the world by 2001 when Project Gutenberg hopes to have 10,000 items online.

If only 10% of those computers contain the average Etexts from Project Gutenberg that will mean Project Gutenberg's goal of giving away one trillion Etexts will be completed at that time, not counting that more than one person will be able to use any of these copies. If the average would still be 2.5 people per computer, then only 4% of all the computers would be required to have reached one trillion.

[10,000 Etexts to 100,000,000 people equals one trillion]

Hart's dream as adequately expressed by "Grolier's" CDROM Electronic Encyclopedia has been his signature block with permission, for years, but this idea is now threatened by those who feel threatened by Unlimited Distribution:

> The trend of library policy is clearly toward
> the ideal of making all information available
> without delay to all people.

|The Software Toolworks Illustrated Encyclopedia (TM) |(c) 1990, 1991 Grolier Electronic Publishing, Inc.

Michael S. Hart, Professor of Electronic Text Executive Director of Project Gutenberg Etext Illinois Benedictine College, Lisle, IL 60532 No official connection to U of Illinois–UIUC hart@uiucvmd.bitnet and hart@vmd.cso.uiuc.edu

Internet User Number 100 [approximately] [TM] Break Down the Bars of Ignorance & Illiteracy On the Carnegie Libraries' 100th Anniversary!

Human Nature such as it is, has presented a great deal of resistance to the free distribution of anything, even air and water, over the millennia.

Hart hopes the Third Millennium A.D. can be different.

But it will require an evolution in human nature and even perhaps a revolution in human nature.

So far, the history of humankind has been a history of an ideal of monopoly:

one tribe gets the lever, or a wheel, or copper, iron or steel, and uses it to command, control or otherwise lord it over another tribe. When there is a big surplus, trade routes begin to open up, civilizations begin to expand, and good times are had by all. When the huge surplus is NOT present, the first three estates lord it over the rest in virtually the same manner as historic figures have done through the ages:

"I have got this and you don't." [Nyah nyah naa naa naa!]

Now that ownership of the basic library of human thoughts is potentially available to every human being on Earth–I have been watching the various attempts to keep this from actually being available to everyone on the planet: this is what I have seen:

1. Ridicule

Those who would prefer to think their worlds would be destroyed by infinite availability of books such as: Alice in Wonderland, Peter Pan, Aesop's Fables or the Complete Works of Shakespeare, Milton or others, have ridiculed the efforts of those who would give them to all free of charge by arguing about whether it should be: "To be or not to be" or "To be [,] or not to be" or "To be [;] or not to be"/"To be [:] or not to be" or whatever; and that whatever their choices are, for this earthshaking matter, that no other choice should be possible to anyone else. My choice of editions is final because *I* have a scholarly opinion.

1A. My response has been to refuse to discuss: "How many angels can dance on the head of a pin," [or many other matters of similar importance].

I know this was once considered of utmost importance, BUT IN A COUNTRY WHERE HALF THE ADULTS COULD NOT EVEN READ SHAKESPEARE IF IT WERE GIVEN TO THEM, I feel the general literacy and literary requirements overtake a decision such as theirs. If they honestly wanted the best version of Shakespeare [in their estimations] to be the default version on the Internet, they wouldn't have refused to create just such an edition, wouldn't have shot down my suggested plan to help them make it . . .for so many years. . .nor, when they finally did agree, they wouldn't have let an offer from a largest wannabee Etext provider to provide them with discount prices, and undermine their resolve to create a super quality public domain edition of Shakespeare. It was an incredible commentary on the educational system in that the Shakespeare edition we finally did use for a standard Internet Etext was donated by a commercial– yes–commercial vendor, who sells it for a living.

In fact, I must state for the record, that education, as an institution, has had

very little to do with the creation and distribution of Public Domain Etexts for the public, and that contributions by the commercial, capitalistic corporations has been the primary force, by a large margin, that funds Project Gutenberg. The 500 volunteers we have come exclusively from smaller, less renowned institutions of education, without any, not one that I can think of, from any of the major or near major educational institutions of the world.

It would appear that those Seven Deadly Sins listed a few paragraphs previously have gone a long way to the proof of the saying that "Power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely."

Power certainly accrues to those who covet it and the proof of the pudding is that all of the powerful club we have approached have refused to assist in the very new concept of truly Universal Education.

Members of those top educational institutions managed to subscribe to our free newsletter often enough, but not one of them ever volunteered to do a book or even to donate a dollar for what they have received: even send in lists of errors they say they have noticed.

Not one. [There is a word for the act of complaining about something without [literally] lifting a finger]

The entire body of freely available Etexts has been a product of the "little people."

1. Cost Inflation

When Etexts were first coming it, estimates were sent around the Internet that it took $10,000 to create an Etexts, and that therefore it would take $100,000,000 to create the proposed Project Gutenberg Library.

$500,000,000 was supposedly donated to create Etexts, by one famous foundation, duly reported by the media, but these Etexts have not found their way into hands, or minds, of the public, nor will they very soon I am afraid, though I would love to be put out of business [so to say] by the act of these institutions' release of the thousands of Etexts some of them already have, and that others have been talking about for years.

My response was, has been, and will be, simply to get the Etexts out there, on time, and with no budget. A simple proof that the problem does not exist. If the team of Project Gutenberg volunteers can produce this number of Etexts and provide it to the entire world's computerized population, then the zillions of dollars you hear being donated to the creations of electronic

libraries by various government and private donations should be used to keep the Information Superhighway a free and productive place for all, not just for those 1% of computers that have already found a home there.

1. Graphics and Markup versus Plain Vanilla ASCII

The one thing you will see in common with ALL of such graphics and markup proposals is LIMITED DISTRIBUTION as a way of life. The purpose of each one of these is and always has been to keep knowledge in the hands of the few and away from the minds of the many.

I predict that in the not-too-distant-future that all materials will either be circulating on the Internet, or that they will be jealously guarded by owners whom I described with the Seven Deadly Sins.

If there is ever such a thing as the "Tri-corder," of Star Trek fame, I am sure there simultaneously has to be developed a "safe" in which those who don't want a whole population to have what they have will "lock" a valuable object to ensure its uniqueness; the concept of which I am speaking is illustrated by this story:

"A butler announces a delivery, by very distinguished members of a very famous auction house. The master– for he IS master–beckons him to his study desk where the butler deposits his silver tray, containing a big triangular stamp, then turns to go.

What some of these projects with tens of millions for their "Electronic Libraries" are doing to ensure this is for THEM and not for everyone is to prepare Etexts in a manner in which no normal person would either be willing or able to read them.

Shakespeare's Hamlet is a tiny file in PVASCII, small enough for half a dozen copies to fit [uncompressed!] on a $.23 floppy disk that fits in your pocket. But, if it is preserved as a PICTURE of each page, then it will take so much space that it would be difficult to carry around even a single copy in that pocket unless it were on a floppy sized optical disk, and even then I don't think it would fit.

Another way to ensure no normal person would read it, to mark it up so blatantly that the human eyes should have difficulty in scansion, stuttering around pages, rather than sliding easily over them; the information contained in this "markup" is deemed crucial by those esoteric scholars who think it is of vital importance that a coffee cup stain appears at the lower right of a certain page, and that "Act I" be followed by [ACT ONE] to ensure everyone knows this is actually where this is where an act or scene or whatever starts.

You probably would not believe how much money has had the honor of being spent on these kinds of projects a normal person is intentionlly deprived of through the mixture is just plain HIDING the files, to making the files so BIG you can't download them, to making them so WEIRD you wouldn't read them if you got them. The concept of requiring all documents to be formatted in a certain manner such that only a certain program can read them has been proposed more often then you might ever want to imagine, for the TWIN PURPOSES OF PROFIT AND LIMITED DISTRIBUTION in a medium which requires a virtue of UNLIMITED DISTRIBUTION to keep it growing.

Every day I read articles, proposals, proceedings for various conferences that promote LIMITED DISTRIBUTION on the Nets. . .simply to raise the prestige or money to keep some small oligarchy in power.

This is truly a time of POWER TO THE PEOPLE as people say in the United States.

What we have here is a conflict between the concepts that everything SHOULD be in LIMITED DISTRIBUTION, and that of the opposing concept of UNLIMITED DISTRIBUTION.

If you look over the table of contents on the next pages, you will see that each of these item stresses the greater and greater differences between an history which has been dedicated to the preservation of Limited Distribution and something so new it has no history longer than 25 years–

Contents

Chapter 00

Preface

Chapter 0

Introduction

Saving Time and Effort

The New Scholarship

Chapter 1

General Comments

Plain Vanilla ASCII Versus Proprietary Markups

Chapter 2

Copyright

Chapter 3

Luddites

Chapter 4

Internet As Chandelier [The Famous Chandelier Diatribe of 1990]

Chapter 5

The Rush To The Top

Chapter 6

Those Who Would Be King

Gopher, WWW, Mosaic, Netscape

Chapter 7

Listowners vs List Moderators

Those Who Would Be King, Part I

Chapter 8

Lurkers

Those Who Would Be King, Part II

Chapter 9

“Lurking Is Good. . .Remember. . .Lurking Is Good”

Those Who Would Be King, Part III

The Netiquetters

Chapter 10

TPC, The Phone Company

Those Who Would Be King, Part IV

Chapter 1

Plain Vanilla ASCII Versus Proprietary Markups

Chapter 2

Copyright

Chapter 3

Luddites

Chapter 4

Internet As Chandelier [The Infamous Chandelier Diatribe of 1990]

[chandel2/wp]

-ORIGINAL MESSAGE– Hart undoubtedly saw academia as a series of dark brown dream shapes, disorganized, nightmarish, each with its set of rules for nearly everything: style of writing, footnoting, limited subject matter, and each with little reference to each other.

-REPLY- What he wanted to see was knowledge in the form of a chandelier, with each subject area powered by the full intensity of the flow of information, and each sending sparks of light to other areas, which would then incorporate and reflect them to others, a never ending flexion and reflection, an illumination of the mind, soul and heart of Wo/Mankind as could not be rivalled by a diamond of the brightest and purest clarity.

Instead, he saw petty feudal tyrants, living in dark poorly lit, poorly heated, well defended castles: living on a limited diet, a diet of old food, stored away for long periods of time, salted or pickled or rotted or fermented. Light from the outside isn't allowed in, for with it could come the spears and arrows of life and the purpose of the castle was to keep the noble life in, and all other forms of life out. Thus the nobility would continue a program of inbreeding which would inevitably be outclassed by an entirely random reflexion of the world's gene pool.

A chandelier sends light in every direction, light of all colors and intensities. No matter where you stand, there are sparkles, some of which are aimed at you, and you alone, some of which are also seen by others: yet, there is no spot of darkness, neither are there spots of overwhelming intensity, as one might expect a sparkling source of lights to give off. Instead, the area is an evenly lit paradise, with direct and indirect light for all, and at least a few

sparkles for everyone, some of which arrive, pass and stand still as we watch.

But the system is designed to eliminate sparkles, reflections or any but the most general lighting. Scholars are encouraged to a style and location of writing which guarantee that 99 and 44 one hundredths of the people who read their work will be colleagues, already a part of that inbred nobility of their fields.

We are already aware that most of our great innovations are made from leaps from field to field, that the great thinkers apply an item here in this field which was gleaned from that field: thus are created the leaps which create new fields which widen fields of human endeavor in general.

Yet, our petty nobles, cased away in their casements, encased in their tradition, always reject the founding of these new fields, fearing their own fields can only be dimmed by comparison. This is true, but only by their own self-design. If their field were open to light from the outside, then the new field would be part of their field, but by walling up the space around themselves, a once new and shining group of enterprising revolutionaries could only condemn themselves to awaiting the ravages of time, tarnish and ignorance as they become ignorant of the outside world while the outside world becomes ignorant of them.

So, I plead with you, for your sake, my sake, for everyone's, to open windows in your mind, in your field, in your writing and in your thinking; to let illumination both in and out, to come from underneath and from behind the bastions of your defenses, and to embrace the light and the air, to see and to breathe, to be seen and to be breathed by the rest of Wo/Mankind.

Let your light reflect and be reflected by the other jewels in a crown of achievement more radiant than anything we have ever had the chance to see or to be before. Join the world!

[chandel2.txt]

A Re-Visitation to the Chandelier by Michael S. Hart

Every so often I get a note from a scholar with questions and comments about the Project Gutenberg Edition of this or that. Most of the time this appears to be either idle speculation– since there is never any further feedback about passages this or that edition does better in the eye of particular scholars or the feedback is of the "holier than thou" variety in which the scholar claims to have found errors in our edition, which the scholar then refuses to enumerate.

As for the first, there can certainly be little interest in a note that appears, even after follow-up queries, of that idle brand of inquiry.

As to the second, we are always glad to receive a correction, that is one of the great powers of etext, that corrections be made easily and quickly when compared to paper editions, with the corrections being made available to those who already had the previous editions, at no extra charge.

However, when someone is an expert scholar in a field they do have a certain responsibility to have their inquiries be some reasonable variety, with a reasonable input, in order to have a reasonable output. To complain that there is a problem w/o pointing out the problem has a rich and powerful vocabulary I do not feel is appropriate for this occasion. We have put an entirely out-of-proportion cash reward on these errors at one time or another and still have not received any indications a scholar has actually ever found them, which would not be more difficult than finding errors in any other etexts, especially ones not claiming an beginning accuracy of only 99.9%.

However, if these corrections WERE forthcoming, then the 99.9 would soon approach 99.95, which is the reference error level referred to several times in the Library of Congress Workshop on Electronic Text Proceedings.

On the other hand, just as the Project Gutenberg's efficiency would drop dramatically if we insisted our first edition of a book were over 99.5% accurate, so too, should efficiency drop dramatically if we were ever to involve ourselves in any type of discussion resembling "How many angels can dance on a pin- head." The fact is, that our editions are NOT targeted to an audience specifically interested in whether Shakespeare would have said:

"To be or not to be" "To be, or not to be" "To be; or not to be" "To be: or not to be" "To be–or not to be"

This kind of conversation is and should be limited to the few dozen to few hundred scholars who are properly interested. A book designed for access by hundreds of millions cannot spend that amount of time on an issue that is of minimal relevance, at least minimal to 99.9% of the potential readers. However, we DO intend to distribute a wide variety of Shakespeare, and the contributions of such scholars would be much appreciated, were it ever given, just as we have released several editions of the Bible, Paradise Lost and even Aesop's Fables.

In the end, when we have 30 different editions of Shakespeare on line simulateously, this will probably not even be worthy, as it hardly is today, of a footnote. . .I only answer out of respect for the process of creating these editions as soon as possible, to improve the literacy and education of the

masses as soon as possible.

For those who would prefer to see that literacy and education continue to wallow in the mire, I can only say that a silence on your part creates its just reward. Your expertise dies an awful death when it is smothered by hiding your light under a bushel, as someone whom is celebrated today once said:

Matthew 5:15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

Mark 4:21 And he said unto them, Is a candle brought to be put under a bushel, or under a bed? and not to be set on a candlestick?

Luke 8:16 No man, when he hath lighted a candle, covereth it with a vessel, or putteth it under a bed; but setteth it on a candlestick, that they which enter in may see the light.

Luke 11:33 No man, when he hath lighted a candle, putteth it in a secret place, neither under a bushel, but on a candlestick, that they which come in may see the light.

Chapter 5

The Rush To The Top

Chapter 6

Those Who Would Be King

Gopher, WWW, Mosaic, Netscape

This chapter discusses why URLs aren't U, Why Universal Resource Locators Are Not Universal

When I first tried the experimental Gopher sites, I asked the inventors of Gopher if their system could be oriented to also support FTP, should a person be more inclined for going after something one already had researched: rather than the "browsing" that was being done so often on those Gopher servers.

The answer was technically "yes," but realistically "no," in that while Gophers COULD be configured such that every file would be accessible by BOTH Gopher and FTP, the real intent of Gopher was to bypass FTP and eventually replace it as the primary method of surfing the Internet.

I tried to explain to them that "surfing" the Internet is much more time

consuming as well as wasteful of bandwidth [this at a time when all bandwidth was still free, and we were only trying to make things run faster, as opposed to actually saving money.

Chapter 7

Listowners vs List Moderators

Those Who Would Be King, Part I

Chapter 8

Lurkers

Those Who Would Be King, Part II

Chapter 9

“Lurking Is Good. . .Remember. . .Lurking Is Good”

Those Who Would Be King, Part III

The Netiquetters

“We Are Surrounded By An Insurmountable Opportunity.”

“It Is Like Drinking From A Firehose.”

“Be Sure To Have YOUR Messages `Netiquette Approved.’”

These sentiments reflect a portion of the Internet who have terrified thoughts and feelings about a wonderful set of opportunities made available by the Internet and other networks.

They are afraid of too much opportunity and would like to make sure no one else takes advantage of such great opportunities because it will make themselves look and feel very small by comparison.

They want to make sure YOU don’t cross the boundaries, simply because THEY ARE AFRAID to cross them.

Their thinking is sociological rather than logical, as follows:

1: They are obviously afraid of so much opportunity.

2: They want to reduce the pressure of so much highly available opportunity.

1. This is because they are afraid someone else would make good use of this opportunity and leave them a footnote in their own fields as opportunity shifts into hyper-drive and nothing will ever be quite as sedate, staid, prim, proper, stiff and reserved as it was previous in a paper dominated room, full of stuffed shirts and Robert's Rules Of Order: which THEY used to keep YOU from upsetting Apple and IBM carts with more horsepower than THEY were willing, and able, to use.

History is full of examples of those in position of an older variety of power using their power to deny, defy and otherwise stultify anything new, and therefore out of their own immediate forms of control.

It is also full of examples of the "Powers-That-Be" so vaingloriously squashing any potential rival powers in much the same manner as a queen bee stings other queen bees to death before they are even born.

In such a manner are the ideas of the new refused in a world dominated by the old.

Of course what comes to mind is Napoleon III's "Salon- des-Refuses" in which works of the [now!] greatest and most famous painters in the world finally had a day to have their works shown to the public after years of an autocratic denial by the Academic Francaise's official Salon, originally begun in the Louvre, and where great examples of these works hang today, in defiance of the greatest "powers-that-be" that ever were, who failed– as all such attempts should fail.

"The Academie Francaise (French Academy) is the most renouned and oldest of the five learned socities that make up the Insititue de France, established by Cardinal Richelieu.

[Grolier's 1994 Electronic Encyclopedia]

The encyclopedia goes on to state that "`unification, and purification'" `were among the prime` "development"' goals.

The most famous recounting of Cardinal Richelieu's attempts to take over France and to remold it in a reflection of his own conservative power structure are detailed in Alexandre Dumas' Three Musketeers. Please…take time to "Read More About It."

The encyclopedia article continues on to describe the intense conservatism these Institutes maintain even a few centuries later even though at least this "oldest and most powerful" of them, "the Salon gradually lost its position as the sole official exibition of French painting," sculpture, etc., which also

stood against the Eiffel Tower, as well as everything else new.

JUST SAY NO

When they come to YOUR electronic door, enlisting YOUR support for their views of how to run the Internet you can “just say no” and feel no obligation to make THEIR rules of order be YOUR rules of order:

1. Don’t bother with their requests for “conservation of bandwidth” because their idea of bandwidth is a sociological “inversion, diversion and perversion” of the term “bandwidth.”

They would have you believe that a dozen short message files sent through THEIR listservers are a “bandwidth- preserver” rather than one message containing what you had to say all at once.

1. This is just so much sociological barnyard matter. They just want to keep you from having your say in an uninterrupted manner. . .it is ONLY this manner in which anyone CAN BE INTERRUPTED on the Internet and it requires YOU TO INTERRUPT YOURSELF, because THEY CAN’T DO INTERRUPT YOU THEMSELVES: THEY HAVE TO TALK YOU INTO THE CUTTING YOUR OWN THROAT.

2. The logical rather than sociological truth is that short messages are 50% made up of header materials that are not part of the message you are sending– but rather header and packet identifiers for these messages. Thus your series of a dozen messages of the short variety is going to be 50% wasteful of a bandwidth it uses, in comparison to sending the 12 thoughts you might want to express as one, single, uninterrupted message.

*** Insert header here Here is an example of the kind of header attached to a normal Internet message. Some VERY wasteful emailers, Netiquetters included, have much longer headers due to their refusal to take the time to delete the addresses when they send the same message to hundreds of people. I have received messages in which the header literally contained hundreds of extra lines beyond this.

Header Starts Below [Margins were shortened. This header contains 1054 characters, which would take 3 512 byte packets, each packet of which has to have its own header normal users never see. A mailer can be set not to show most of the header, but it is all there, and taking up bandwidth.]

Received: from UBVM.cc.buffalo.edu (ubvm.cc.buffalo.edu [128.205.2.1]) by mtshasta.snowcrest.net (8.6.5/8.6.5) with SMTP id FAA24025; Thu, 2 Feb

1995 05:53:11 -0800 Message-Id: 199502021353.FAA24025@mtshasta.snowcrest.net Received: from UBVM.CC.BUFFALO.EDU by UBVM.cc.buffalo.edu (IBM VM SMTP V2R2) with BSMTP id 0354; Thu, 02 Feb 95 08:43:10 EST Received: from UICBIT.UIC.EDU (NJE origin VMMAIL@PPLCATS) by UBVM.CC.BUFFALO.EDU (LMail V1.2a/1.8a) with BSMTP id 3521; Wed, 1 Feb 1995 19:45:18 -0500 Received: from UICBIT.BITNET (NJE origin LISTSERV@UICBIT) by UICBIT.UIC.EDU (LMail V1.2a/1.8a) with BSMTP id 5650; Wed, 1 Feb 1995 18:44:26 -0600 Date: Wed, 1 Feb 1995 18:22:10 CST Reply-To: Project Gutenberg Email List GUTNBERG %UIUCVMD.BITNET@UBVM.CC.BUFFALO.EDU Sender: Project Gutenberg Email List GUTNBERG%UIUCVMD.BITNET@UBVM.CC.BUFFALO.EDU From: “Michael S. Hart” HART@vmd.cso.uiuc.edu Subject: March Gutenberg Etexts To: Multiple recipients of list GUTNBERG GUTNBERG %UIUCVMD.BITNET@UBVM.CC.BUFFALO.EDU

Header Ends Here

Another Demonstration of Socio-Logical Argumentation

I have a signature block that contains the usual in a name, position, and disclaimer along with information of how long you should wait for a reply to a message, who to contact for further information and it has one line about how long I have been on the Internet.

It takes up about this much space:

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

which is about 318 characters and receives complaints from those who accept signature blocks that look like:

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

space they are talking about is in the human mind, and not in the computers.

To which *I* reply “Barnyard Material!”

THESE PEOPLE ARE NOT OUT TO SAVE “BUZZWORD BANDWIDTH”. . . THEY ARE OUT TO CONTROL YOU. . .DON’T LET THEM.

“Netiquette” is something THEY have invented TO CONTROL YOU!

All you have to do is remind them that each individual has a most powerful protection against anything they don’t want to see. . .THE DELETE KEY!

You will probably also have to remind them, sometimes in the manner of using a different platform to speak from, if their response is not to post your messages, that:

“SINCE EVERYONE HAS THEIR OWN DELETE KEY, THERE IS NO NEED TO DELETE THIS FOR THEM!

Chapter 10

TPC, The Phone Company

Those Who Would Be King, Part IV

My apologies for using the United States as an example so many times, but… most of my experience has been in the US.

Asychnronous Availability of Information

One of the major advantages of electronic information is that you don’t have to schedule yourself to match others in their schedules.

This is very important. Just this very week I have been waiting for a power supply for one of my computers, just because the schedule of the person who has it was not in sync with the schedule of the person picking it up. The waste has been enormous, and trips all the way across an entire town are wasted, while the computer lies unused.

The same things happens with libraries and stores of all kinds around the world. How many times have you tried a phone call, a meeting, a purchase, a repair, a return or a variety of other things, and ended up not making these connections?

No longer, with things that are available electronically over the Nets. You don’t have to wait until the door of the library swings open to get that book

you want for an urgent piece of research; you don't have to wait until a person is available to send them an instant message; you don't have to wait for the evening news on tv….

This is called Asyncronous Communication…meaning those schedules don't have to match exactly any more to have a meaningful and quick conversation. A minute here, there or wherever can be saved instead of wasted and the whole communication still travels at near instantaneous speed, without the cost of ten telegrams, ten phone calls, etc.

You can be watching television and jump up and put a few minutes into sending, or answering, your email and would not miss anything but the commercials.

"Commercials" bring to mind another form of asynchronous communication…taping a tv or radio show and watching a show in 40 minutes instead of an hour because you do not have to sit through 1 minute of "not-show" per 2 minutes of show. No only to you not have to be home on Thursday night to watch your favorite TV show any more, but those pesky commercials can be edited out, allowing you to see three shows in the time it used to take to watch two.

This kind of efficiency can have a huge effect on you or your children. . .unless you WANT them to see 40 ads per hour on television, or spend hours copying notes from an assortment of library books carried miles from, and back to, the libraries. Gone are the piles of 3x5 cards past students and scholars have heaped before time in efforts to organize mid-term papers for 9, 12, 16 or 20 years of institutionalized education. Whole rainforests of trees can be saved, not to mention the billions of hours of an entire population's educated scribbling that should have been spent between the ears instead of between paper and hand, cramping the thought and style of generations upon generations of those of us without photographic memories to take the place of the written word.

Now we all can have photographic memories, we can quote, with total accuracy, millions of 3x5 cards worth of huge encyclopedias of information, all without getting up for any reason other than eating, drinking and stretching.

Research in this area indicates that 90% of the time the previous generations spent for research papers was spent traipsing through the halls, stairways and bookstacks of libraries; searching through 10 to 100 books for each of the ones selected for further research; and searching on 10-100 pages for each quote worthy of making it into the sacred piles of 3x5 cards; then searching

the card piles for those fit for the even more sacred sheets of paper a first draft was written on. Even counting the fanatical dedication of those who go through several drafts before a presentation draft is finally achieved the researchers agree that 90% of this kind of work is spent in “hunting and gathering” the information and only 10% of this time is spent “digesting” the information.

If you understand that civilization was based on the new invention called “the plow,” which changed the habits of “hunting and gathering” peoples into civilized cities… then you might be able to understand the the changes the computer and computer networks are making to those using them instead of the primitive hunting and gathering jobs we used to spend 90% of our time on.

In mid-19th Century the United States was over 90% in an agrarian economy, spending nearly all of its efforts for raising food to feed an empty belly. Mid-20th Century’s advances reversed that ratio, so that only 10% was being used for the belly, 90% for civilization.

The same thing will be said for feeding the mind, if our civilization ever gets around deciding that spending the majority of our research time in a physical, rather than mental, portion of the educational process.

Think of it this way, if it takes only 10% as long to do the work to write a research paper, we are likely to get either 10 times as many research papers, or papers which are 10 times as good, or some combination…just like we ended up with 10 times as much food for the body when we turned from hunting and gathering food to agriculture at the beginnings of civilization… then we would excpect a similar transition to a civilization of the future.

If mankind is defined as the animal who thinks; thinking more and better increases the degree to which we are the human species. Decreasing our ability to think is going to decrease our humanity…and yet I am living in what a large number of people define as the prime example of an advanced country…where half the adult population can’t read at a functional level. [From the US Adult Literacy Report of 1994]

“Now that cloning geniuses, along with all other humans, has been outlawed, only outlaws will clone geniuses, and the rest of mankind will be `unarmed’ in a battle of the mind between themselves and the geniuses.”

“Have you ever noticed that the only workers in history, all of history; never to have a guild or a union are the inventors who live by the effort of the mind?”

We have workers who live by the efforts of their bodies, whether dock workers or professional athletes who have a set of established unions, pay dues, have gone on strike from time to time, and all the related works of unions– but we have never had a union of those who change worlds from Old World to New World****

Appendix 1

The Growth of the Internet

Date Hosts

05/69 4 10/69 5 04/71 23 06/74 62 03/77 111 08/81 213 05/82 235 08/83 562 10/84 1,024 10/85 1,961 02/86 2,308 11/86 5,089 12/87 28,174 07/88 33,000 10/88 56,000 01/89 80,000 07/89 130,000 10/89 159,000 10/90 313,000 01/91 376,000 07/91 535,000 07/91 535,000 10/91 617,000 01/92 727,000 04/92 890,000 07/92 992,000 10/92 1,136,000 01/93 1,313,000 04/93 1,486,000 07/93 1,776,000 10/93 2,056,000 01/94 2,217,000 03/95 ~4,000,000

[Multiply hosts by 100 to get approximate numbers of computers in the world at the time. For instance we should be approaching about 400 million computers in the world at the time of this first edition.]

[Multiply Hosts by 10 to get an approximation of the total number of people. Early on, this was probably a smaller multiplier, as there were only 7 people on the UIUC login list at the time: half of these were not logging in on a regular basis. Thus my estimate that I was about the 100th person on the Internet as I presume our site was not the first nor the last of the 18 new sites in 1971, so approximating 9th, plus the 5 already there, we were probably around 14th or so, though they tell me we were actually earlier, to facilitate transcontinental traffic.

Sticking with the conservative estimate of 14th, and with the same numbers of people on each of the other nodes, that would have made me the 99th user.]

Television versus Education: Who Is Winning? [As If You Had To Ask]

Basketball, Football, Baseball, Hockey and Golf [Live and Video Games]

versus

Shakespeare, Milton, Chaucer, Verne and Hugo

You would think that some operation that spends a hundred times more than another would not fear much competition– especially when the deck is stacked in their favor as the following examples demonstrate:

1.

There is always great battle between Macbeth and Macduff; Macbeth never gets blown out in the first quarter and the author never jacks you up for higher royalties.

1.

Shakespeare was DESIGNED to be entertaining, so you don't have to change the rules every season to make things more exciting. Of course, if you WANT to, you can always turn Romeo and Juliet into a story about New York City warfare between street gangs instead of noble families of Verona.

If the US actually spends a trillion dollars on education every year or two, and major sports franchising spends in the neighborhood of 1/100th of that amount, and the video game businesses spend even less, then why is it that your exposure to Michael Jordan was a given, and his paychecks were higher than any other college graduate in his class?

Ten to fifteen year old basketball shoes are nearly all a forgotten item, rotting away in landfills while computers the same age are still available for studying Shakespeare more efficiently than any paper copy can ever provide and less expensively.

Those computers are more than fast enough for the kind of studying most kids do in school, and they cost no more on today's market than a pair of basketball shoes.

Why is the centuries old blackboard still the default for classrooms around the world, when they cost much more and do much less than computers one tenth their age?

Why do we have physical Olympics and no mental Olympics?

Why do trivia games shows thrive on the market, and shows featuring our brightest students die on the vine and then get relegated to local programming on Sunday morning?

Outfitting a kid with a decade old computer costs no more than outfitting that kid with basketball shows, much less a basketball and a hoop, and the kid doesn't outgrow that computer every year or wear it out, and regulation

height of the monitor doesn't change and make all the older ones obsolete just due to some rule change.

Throwing billions of Etexts out there into cyberspace can not guarantee anyone will actually learn to read any more than throwing a billion basketballs out there should be a guarantee that there will be another Michael Jordan: nor will it guarantee a new Einstein, Edison, Shakespeare, or any other great person. . .

. . .BUT. . .it will increase the odds.

Someone still has to pick up the books, just as there has to be someone to pick up the basketballs, for both remain dead until someone brings them to life.

Television, on the other hand, natters on into the night, long after you have fallen asleep.

Education has all the advantages in competition with ball games and video games, not only those listed above, but a whole world insists on education, forces edcuation, which just might have caused some of the problem.

Perhaps education has too many advantages. . .so many, in fact, that education has never realized it is competition bound with other messages.

A hundred years ago there were no industries vying for an audience of kids, life outside the schoolhouse was boring and there was very little to bring to class to compete in some manner with the teacher, other than a bullfrog. The massive variety of things kids have competing for them is something educational systems have not taken into account and they still rely on the threat of truant officers, not on earning the attention of the students.

The competition is not nearly so sound asleep. . . .

TV shows spend billions of their dollars figuring out how to get you to stay tuned in for that last few seconds and billions more watching overnight ratings results to check their performances and those of their competitors.

When TV ratings go down, the shows are changed, sometimes so drastically you wouldn't recognize them, and are often cancelled altogether, sometimes only two weeks into a new season. I once saw a show featured on one of the morning talk shows to promote that evening's performance, but the show was cancelled during the intervening hours.

When school ratings go down, the ratings are changed; the show remains

essentially the same, and it is often a best teacher award winner who gets cancelled while more boring teachers go on year after year to bore the children of an assortment of former students.

The Preservation of Errors

With the advent of electronic text there is no longer any reason but the Seven Deadly Sins [enumerated above] for a person not to share information. . .except. . .some value added work to make the texts better than what passed into their hands from previous editions.

However, with a kind of infinitely reverse logic, most of the scholars dipping their toes into cyberspace, have the espoused idea that no Etexts should vary by one character from some exact paper predecessor, and that these Etexts, new that they are, should be absolutely identified with a particular paper edition which cannot be improved upon.

Somehow this reminds me of the Dark Ages, that 1500 years during which no weighty tome of the past could be updated because that would be the same thing as challenging those revered authorities of the Golden Age of Greece, which we all know can never be improved upon.

Their tomes were copied, over, and over, and over again– with the inevitable degradation that comes with telephone games [in which you whisper a secret message through ears after ears in a circle, until completely distorted babble returns from the other side]. Even xeroxing has this bad result if you do it over and over.

Therefore scholars developed a habit of searching for any differences between editions, and referring back to older editions to resolve differences, because the more copying the more chances for the addition of errors, comments and other possibly spurious information.

This was probably ok for the environment they lived in… but a serious failing caused the Dark Ages which lasted a VERY LONG TIME by anyone's standards, and served to warn, in a manner we should NOT ignore, that this should not be the way things should be done in the future.

[The most minimized estimates of the length of the period approximate about 400 years from the latest possible date of the fall of the Roman Empire sometime in the 400's AD, to Charlemagne in the 800's. Of course, most believe the fall of the Roman Empire was much earlier, as the empire, such as it was, was "neither Holy, nor Roman, nor Empire" for a long time before 400 AD and things tended to return to the way they had been before Charlemagne after he died with estimates of the end of Dark Ages ranging as

late as the Renaissance in the 1400's. Thus the longest estimate would be no more than 1500 years from the birth of Caesar until the Renaissance was truly underway, with a shortest possible estimate being somewhat under 500 years. Thus a medium estimate of 1000 years would be sure to antagonize both end of the spectrum, and is therefore certainly more accurate than either.]

It would appear that the effort to reproduce books with a perfection that refuses the corrections of errors because of a misplaced loyalty to previous editions, looms again, this time over the electronic libraries of the future, in that a significant number of Etext creators are insisting on continuing the practices, policies and precepts of the Dark Ages in that they insist on the following:

1. Copies must be exact, no corrections can be made.

2. Any differences between copies must be decided in an ethic that honors the oldest over the newest.

3. The authoritative copies must be held in sacred trust in the sepulchres of the oldest institutions, and not let out into the hands of the public.

Of course, these are totally belied by the facts:

1. Digitial ASCII reproductions ARE exact by nature, and thus no errors can creep in.

2. Any differences that DO creep in can be found in just a single second with programs such as comp, diff, cf, and the like. Even a change as unnoticeable as blank space added to the end of a sentence or file is found and precisely located without effort.

3. Holding books in sacred trust in this manner does not allow them to do their work. A book that is not read is a book that is dead. Books are written for people to read, to hear, to see performed on stage, not so a sort of intellectual GESTAPO/GEheimnis STadt POlizei/ Home State Police could come to power by holding book power in secret.

On March 8, 1995, Project Gutenberg completed its 250th offering to the Internet Public Library, as many have come to call it.

A great number of changes have come to the Internet since we got the Complete Works of Shakespeare out as out 100th publication– some of them extraordinarily good, some of the of more moderated goodness, and some on the other end of the spectrum

Probably the most exciting two recent events are the 20,000 year old cave paintings discovered in France in January, released for the news media in February, and posted as #249 on March 8th with several versions of each painting having been collected, in both .GIF and .JPG formats.

This is particularly exciting when you realize that the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered in 1947 and that no one outside a select few ever even saw them or pictures of them until just a few were smuggled out on Macintosh disks a couple years ago; four decades went by without the public getting any view of them.

The French Ministry of Culture has been very swift in getting an extraordinary event such as this covered by the general media on a worldwide basis only one month after their discovery, and also has taken only a week or two to grant Project Gutenberg a permit to post these wonderful paintings on the Internet.

On the other hand, the future of the Internet Public Library may be in serious danger if we do not ensure that information may be continually forthcoming to the public. As many of you know, the Project Gutenberg Etexts are 90% from the Public Domain with 10% reproduced by permission. However, there is a movement to cease the introduction of materials into the Public Domain in Congress [of the United States] which would effectively stop the entry of this kind of information into general Internet circulation. 200 years ago the US copyright was established at 14 years according to the speeches of Senator Orrin Hatch, sponsoring one bill, and then extended another 14, then another 28, then extended to life of the author plus another 50 years after, and 75 years for that kind of copyright which is created by a corporation.

This means that if you took your 5 year old kid to see “The Lion King” when it came out, the kid would have to be 80 years old to have lived long enough to have a copy that was not licensed by a commercial venture. The fact that the average person will never reach the age of 80 effectively creates a permanent copyright to deny public access during the expected lifetimes of any of us.

However, this is not enough. . .the new bill is designed to kill off ANY chance that even 1% of the youngest of us will ever have our own rights to an unlicensed copy of any material produced in our lifetimes because if these bills are passed, our young kid a paragraph above will have to reach the age of 100 to have rights to the materials published today, while the rights of inventors, protected by patent law, will still expire in 17 years.

Why is it more important that we all can buy Public Domain legal copies of

the latest supersonic toaster less than two decades of production after the original, but it is not as important for us to be well read, well informed and well educated?

FREE WINNIE-THE-POOH

We hope with your assistance we can mount a successful effort to free Winnie-the Pooh, imprisoned by various copyright laws since his birth in 1926.

At the beginning of Project Gutenberg, one of our first projects was going to be the children's classic Winnie-the-Pooh: written in 1926, and therefore up for copyright renewal in 1954, and the copyright renewal would have then expired in 1982, and thus been a perfect candidate for Project Gutenberg's Children's Library.

However, this was not allowed to happen.

Instead, the copyright on Winnie-the-Pooh was extended, for a 75 year total, meaning we would have to wait until 2001 for the new copyright term to expire, effectively keeping Winnie-the-Pooh in jail for another two decades or so.

However, two new bills have been introduced into the Senate, and the House of Representatives of the United States to extend this term of imprisonment yet again, for an additional 20 years.

The last copyright extension in the United States was in 1975 as I recall. If we extend the copyright 20 years every 20 years we will destroy the very concept of Public Domain, as we have known it since the beginning of copyright.

Copyright only began when people other than those extremely rich few who could afford a price of a family farm for every book had their places as the only owners of books destroyed by Gutenberg, the inventor of the moveable type printing press.

Mass availability of books was just something that should not be tolerated. . .therefore the printers' guilds lobbied for a right to decide not only who could print any book but whether the book would be printed at all. This was a very strong monopoly put on an industry that had been a free-for-all since Gutenberg.

This copyright remained virtually the same length, 28 years, for quite a while, and the first United States copyright was for two 14 year periods, the

second automatically given on request.

When books once again became too popular at the turn of the last century, and many publishers began selling inexpensive sets of a variety of extensive subjects, the copyrights were doubled again so that the 14 years plus 14 year extension became 28 years with a 28 year extension, which was done around 1909.

Then, in the last half of this century, books once again were to become too widely spread, this time with the advent of the xerox machine. Not only were new laws made to curb copying, but those old laws were extended from that 28 + 28 = 56 years to 75 years, and this was done in 1975 or so.

Now with the advent of truly UNLIMITED DISTRIBUTION available to the world via computer files, books are once again getting to be too widely spread, and further restriction is in the works, this time only 20 years after the last extension, which was for about 20 years. Work is already underway for a permanent copyright to keep us from putting "the Library of Congress" on our disks.

I have said for years that by the time computers get as far into the future as they have come from the past, that we will be able to hold all of the Library of Congress in one hand, but I added, "They probably won't let us do it."

Let me explain that for a minute; back in 1979 Project Gutenberg bought its first hard drive for about $1500 dollars, for Apple's new Personal Computer. Not counting inflation we can buy drives that will hold 1,000 times as much data for the same price. The true cost, counting inflation, would be that our $1500 would buy closer to 10,000 times as much space because our $1500 from 1979 is equivalent to about $5,000 today, if we get the new "magneto-resistive" drive from IBM. This is NOT counting ZIP compression or other compression programs. If you count them, you would get about 5,000 times as much data for your money today as in 1979.

5 million bytes = $1500 in 1979 = one copy of Shakespeare 12 billion bytes = $4500 in 1995 [inflation has tripled plus] 25 billion bytes . . .with compression programs.

This is 5,000 copies of the Complete Shakespeare on one disk, or less then $1 per copy. This upsets those who think there should not be unlimited numbers of books in the world, so definition of copyright and consequently the definition of public domain is in danger of being changed, as they have been every time in history that the public got too much information.

If the trend listed above continues for only 15 more years, 2010 will see

drives containing 25 million copies of Shakespeare, for the same price as the drive that could only hold one copy thirty years earlier, and the price per copy will be so low that it may take more money to run the calculation to figure the prices than the prices actually are.

This is the real reason copyright gets extended, history repeats itself, over and over again, and "those who do not study history are condemned to repeat it." What they want is to ensure you do not study history, so they can do the same things over and over, because that is the easiest way for them to make money. Change, especially the kinds that are happening in the computers' world, is what scares them. When changes comes along, they try as hard as they can to keep things the way they were, and nowhere is it more obvious than now. Most copyrighted materials are gone, out of print forever, in only five years, maybe 75% in ten years, in 15 years probably 87% are out of print, 20 years at that rate is 93%, 25 years is 96%, 30 years is 98% and 35 years would be well over 99%. . .and that doesn't even take into account the shorter term runs of newspapers, magazines, TV show, movies, records and all those things that most people don't even expect to last more than year in the public eye. The fact is that probably only .1% or less of anything published in the 1920s is still in print for the original edition. . .that is only one item out of 1,000, and that estimate is probably quite high. The point is that can our copyright laws support the withholding of 1,000 books for 1 that is actually available. . .we don't make our driving laws for the 1 out of 1,000 that could be race car drivers, that would be one of the silliest laws on record. We have to make our laws so the law applies well to everyone, not just to make the rich richer– or in this case the Information Rich richer.

Much of this new effort not to let anything out of copyright was made by the music industry, which just had the best year of all, ever, shipping over a billion CD's, tapes, records and videos.

Why, with all this success, they want to keep copyrights on 1920 items that are 99% out of print. . .is a question worth asking– the answer is the copyright has always been extended when books, or other forms of information, have become too plentiful; we SAY we want everyone to be well read and well informed, and then the law makes it more difficult. Just look as what has happened for literacy in the United States during the period that a copyright law demanded that nothing become Public Domain coming up to 1975 . . .is keeping Hemingway or Winnie-the-Pooh from becoming parts of the Public Domain going to improve the US literacy rate?

We hope with your assistance we can mount a successful effort to free Winnie-the Pooh, imprisoned by various copyright laws since his birth in 1926. . .all copyright laws referred to were United States copyright laws in

effect at various times Winnie-the-Pooh has been incarcerated. Other countries have different copyright laws, and Winnie-the-Pooh was written in England, so a variation in the US laws cannot be said to have affects other copyrights.

However, the above example is pretty valid for any book that was published in the US during the 1920s or 1930's.

Ladies and Gentlemen. . .Start Your Engines!

The Race to the Information Age Has Begun.

It began in a much more quiet manner than the Golden Spike which joined the two halves of a Transcontinental Railroad exactly 100 years earlier. . .so much more quietly that we never knew it was happening, and we were all left standing there at the starting gate, gawking at Men on the Moon.

It all happened about 25 years ago, in 1969, but the media never put the word "Internet" on the front page of a major newspaper until the Wall Street Journal did it, on October 29, 1991. . .yet even so, most of you probably never heard or saw the word Internet in the media until 1994, with the 25th Anniversay hardly ever mentioned, as the idea was for everyone to think the Internet is the newest thing around, and to get us all to buy tickets for $20-$25 a month.

What is the "First Rule of Reporting a Story?". . .oh yes:

Follow The Money

Right now there are 40-50 million people on the Internet– and if someone could figure out how to make them all pay a $20-$25 fee. . .that would be $100 million a month or over a billion dollars a year.

Wow. . .if they can do that to an Information Superhighway that had been running free of charge since the 60's, might be they will figure out how to do it with those Interstate Superhighways made of concrete, too, most of them have not been running any longer than that.

The NSFNet [National Science Foundation Network] was being cussed and discussed by the powers that be in the hopes it could be dismantled at the same time most of us were first hearing about the Internet, and none of us would notice it when we were all asked to pay that billion dollars a year, for something that had been as free as the highway systems to the Information Rich/Etite for all those years.

Let's Follow The Money Some More

The first hard drives anyone used on the Internet were not very big in terms of how much information they would hold, but they were HUGE compared to any other hard drives every computer has used for over 15 years. . .they were the size of washing machines, and could not hold information as big as the Bible or Shakespeare.

Today, for 1% of the price you can get 1,000 times as much storage space. . .2,000 times as much, if you use a modern compression program when storing your information.

The point I am trying to make here is that the price of an electronic storage device has fallen literally closer to 0 than to 1% of the price it was when the Internet started– and this is scheduled to continue for the next few decades, which means we will all be able to affort drives that will be able to hold the entire Library of Congress. . . .if it is allowed.

But it won't be.

There's the rub.

The point I am trying to make is that just because we will finally have the box capable of storing the entire Library of Congress. . .they will make sure we don't get to, ever, for we will be dead by the time anything we see today gets old enough for the copyright to expire.

Let's Follow The Money Some More

Just a few months ago, the music industry completed record sales figures for any year in history, moving 1 billion of a combination of CDs, tapes, records and music videos, for a staggering $12 billion dollars.

The response to this success, a few weeks ago, was for the music industry to propose, not a rebate to their customers but just the opposite, an additional 20 years during which the music industry could have a continued monopoly on that music, and. . .purely incidentally. . .this monopoly would also be extended to books, television, movies, video games and everything else that could be copyrighted.

I think the only way to understand this is to put it in an elementary perspective such as this:

Right now, you take your kid to see a movie, any movie the producers are releasing right now. Let's say your kid has been alive 5 years, under current

law, that kid has to get to 80 years old before s/he can own a copy of that movie– without the permission of the copyright holder. . .and the average age such kids can be expected to live is less than 80 years. . .thus making the copyright permanent for us or the kids we take to the movies.

The same is true for all current copyrighted materials and the music industry is trying to add another 20 years to an already "life sentence". . .and this when their sales have just broken all records in history, if you will pardon the pun. . . .

Since the founding of the United States when copyrights or patents were proposed by Thomas Jefferson for 17 years the period was lengthened to 28 years, plus another 28 years– and most recently to 75 years for corporate copyrights and "life plus 50 years" for individual copyrights.

That means that "Zen and the Art of the Internet," written by a 20 year old, who will be expected to live for another 55 years or so, will still be under copyright sentencing a century from now, and will be totally out of date and will be totally useless other than as a historical footnote.

If this is the response of an industry that has just had a huge record bashing year of sales, a response not to lower prices but to raise them, then we are doing something in a backwards manner in the case of copyright.

When car makers have really good years, or really bad ones for that matter, they work very hard to attract customers, with new innovations, more car for the money, financing on better terms, or whatever, and when they have record years they give their workers huge bonuses, which I am sure most of you have heard about recently, and they also compete in an aggressive manner to keep sales up.

Copyright and patents are what allow people NOT to compete in the marketplace, as least for the first decade or two a new item is in the marketplace. . .only now copyrights are being extended to include the entire lifetime, not only of the copyright holder, but of the audience as well.

Something is wrong.

The Information Age Is Being Ruled By The Information Rich As Surely as the Transcontinental Railroads Were Ruled For Decades By The Robber Barons.

The Information Rich had a free ride on the Superhighways, about 25 years worth of free ride, and now the Information Poor want a ride so the Information Rich are shutting down the free rides and are selling tickets. . .selling tickets to something which until this year was so inexpensive that it it

hardly paid to figure out what to charge any person, much less any institution.

End of Project Gutenberg's ^***.* History of the Internet, by Michael Hart

*** END OF THE PROJECT GUTENBERG EBOOK ^***. *HISTORY OF THE INTERNET* **

Updated editions will replace the previous one—the old editions will be renamed.

Creating the works from print editions not protected by U.S. copyright law means that no one owns a United States copyright in these works, so the Foundation (and you!) can copy and distribute it in the United States without permission and without paying copyright royalties. Special rules, set forth in the General Terms of Use part of this license, apply to copying and distributing Project Gutenberg™ electronic works to protect the PROJECT GUTENBERG™ concept and trademark. Project Gutenberg is a registered trademark, and may not be used if you charge for an eBook, except by following the terms of the trademark license, including paying royalties for use of the Project Gutenberg trademark. If you do not charge anything for copies of this eBook, complying with the trademark license is very easy. You may use this eBook for nearly any purpose such as creation of derivative works, reports, performances and research. Project Gutenberg eBooks may be modified and printed and given away—you may do practically ANYTHING in the United States with eBooks not protected by U.S. copyright law. Redistribution is subject to the trademark license, especially commercial redistribution.

Project Gutenberg Blog Posts

May The Source Be With You. . . .

What I mean by this is that the idea[l] of Project Gutenberg is to bring the source of all information, and civilization, to the masses in the same way The Gutenberg Press did in the middle of The Second Millennium, only in a modern manner.

As our civilization starts off into The Third Millennium the average person should be able to get to online computers for the purpose of acquiring knowledge from a million books by a time when The Third Millennium is only 1% on its way, and by the time 2% is completed should have access to 10 million of these books in translation into 100 languages or more.

These predictions have been part of my goals for the Project

The Project Gutenberg Literary Archive Foundation Blog

Gutenberg Literary Archive since its inception, but only now is there any likelihood that persons will seriously consider such predictions. . .they were just too much in the past.

However, with the advent of 1/2 terabyte drives for $200 and the consequent ability to add a terabyte to your computer on a budget, the possibilities of such Project Gutenberg goals, and more, are becoming so much the stuff of reality that the naysayers have little to count on, other than being labeled, “The nattering nabobs of negativity,” to cash in a phrase of some previous political significance.

Today there is no reason the average person can’t have whole libraries of books residing inside their own person computer as their own person library, only a library much larger than the average public library, which carries ~30,000 books–but also contains many other things than books. There isn’t any reason these personal libraries cannot contain artworks by a thousand artists or sculptors, music by a thousand composers and a wide variety of others.

You are nearly all familiar with iPods, but most of us would not realize that an iPod could easily contain more music for our potential listening than most of us have time for. It’s nothing for millions of people to log over 10,000 items into their iPods. . .listening to one each 60 minutes, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 day a year would still not quite let you each of the items one time.

10,000/365 = 27.4

Most of us also don’t realize, even though programs to let a person read eBook on iPods were available when iPods were on the market only a week, that you could just as easily put an electronic library of eBooks on you iPod as a music library. In fact, there is no reason you can’t mix the two, and, with the new video iPods, also include the above art library.

But I don't want these people to just have such materials as an audience, I want them to have them as a source of the new materials of the future.

I want anyone who wants to make a new edition of any classic book to find that 99% of what they need to create such a new edition is right there for the taking and that all they have to do is the "real" work. . .right between the ears, and the heart. . .let's not forget the heart.

Our educational system is rampant with "Trivial Pursuit" and the like, as opposed to real thought provoking events.

In fact, "thought provoking" is likely to become one of such words as have become "politically incorrect," and we will be teaching the next generations of students never to say words that could be construed as "thought provoking."

What possible good could come from provoking thought?

What I would like to do is to free our people from the waste of the "Trivial Pursuit" aspects of education, just as freed they were from the multiplications tables, that turned minds into memory banks of totals and sub-totals, instead of minds that were actual calculators that could figure out problems, rather than recite their solutions from memory. Look up the words "computer" and "calculator" in the OED or many classic dictionaries for definitions of people who can work numbers, though I should warn you that the more modern definitions in use tilt a bias more towards the MBA mentality, which is not the same thing at all.

I remember teachers and professors of the ilk who, when they were asked a question such as, "When Hamlet talks about `the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune,' is it the kinds of slings used back in the day of David and Goliath?" and would grab their huge weighty tome of Shakespeare's collected work and casually flip through the pages until Hamlet's soliloquy was in front of them, and then, after quoting a few lines be suggesting a possible "research paper" for the student, when they should have been answering a simple "yes or no" query.

The truth is the most teachers probably never considered the question of whether Hamlet meant something like the sling of David as mentioned in the Bible, and thus should not be able to give a decent answer. . .thus some hiding behind "Trivial Pursuit" of the quotation which proves they know Shakespeare . . .but doesn't prove they ever provoked any thoughts about what what Shakespeare was actually saying.

What I want is for the students to be able to whip out their PDAs, PPCs,

iPods, or whatever, and beat those professors to the quotations, thus keeping the conversation on track of an answer to a simple question, rather than let some professors take them off on a wild goose chase, all the long way around Robin Hood's barn.

;-)

When I say, "May The Source Be With You," I mean that I want to give that source material to everyone, thus freeing them, I hope, from the drudgery of the "Trivial Pursuit" aspect of the old-fashioned educational system, to be able to ask such questions of their professors without such professors having the possibility of palming off such questions as above.

The same goes for the "treasure hunts" through libraries and other sources, a la Professor Kingsfield, in a movie called, "The Paper Chase," in which the students are chasing papers, in more ways than one, as you will find out if you look.

•

While on the subject of movies, I would like to recommend an Ealing Alec Guiness classic, "The Man in the White Suit," as my favorite movie of all time for the left brain, and than a right brain classic from the same period, "The Red Shoes."

"The Red Shoes" is/was also available in the great paperback written by the same two who made the movie.

I suppose I should also add the 1954 version "20,000 Leagues Under the Sea."

As far as books go, "Dandelion Wine," by Ray Bradbury is the right brain favorite, with "Atlas Shrugged," by Ayn Rand for the left brain. "Atlas Shrugged" is 1,000 pages which might be too much for most people to start with, so you might want to start with "Anthem," which is a Project Gutenberg eBook.

If you are totally serious about reading Rand, you might see yourself clear to reading "The Fountainhead" before "Atlas," as you will probably get more out of both that way, but I am inclined to warn you that the first 120 pages go slowly.

•

The upshot of this commentary is that Project Gutenberg goal orientation is

not so much to bring finished product to some billions of people, but rather to bring the source materials with which they can build new products, including themselves via the opportunity to pull themselves up by the bootstraps, without dependence on any particular institutions, libraries or schools, but with direct access and control.

*Should I leave this next part out???!!!

It is not that I want to eliminate libraries and/or schools, I love them more than you might imagine, but I value what is the substantive materials out of which libraries and schools are built even more than libraries and schools themselves.

I also value the words in the books more than the books as a material object. . .I find it difficult to understand voices that tell me how much fondness they have for the look and/or feel of paper books. . .I feel they have somehow caught this secondary fondness for the “form” rather than the “content.” For me it is all about the content. . .I literally could not tell you what the pages of the books I read look like unless I was studying them for class, because then I remember where the words were on the pages so I can find them again. . .but rather I see past the words to a vision, a literal vision of the story behind the words. For this reason I cannot listen to audio books while driving, it would be too dangerous.

But what I value most is the hearts and minds of the authors who have spent major portions of their lives to tell me what was inside them, to tell me of their own perceptions and the thoughts and feelings that reside in them.

Books are one of the ultimate forms of communication for us, and we can receive the thoughts of people who lived hundreds or thousands of years and miles away, very much like Colonel Freeleigh as a time machine in “Dandelion Wine.”

If the only effect of my career is that the literacy rate is improved by 10%, that people read 10% more, are educated 10% better, and all that comes with that, I will say that I have been a success, but I have hopes for much more than that.

I hope that eBooks create the same kind of change as did The Gutenberg Press, providing us with a Neo-Rennaissance, and a Neo-Industrial Revolution, something for the right brain and something for the left brain of the world at large.

I hope that you, personally, find at least one more door you can open via eBooks that you might not have opened otherwise to a place you will call

home.

My Best Wishes To You All!

Michael S. Hart Founder Project Gutenberg MY VISION OF PROJECT GUTENBERG

I see the effects of Project Gutenberg leading to an electronic library in every country, more than just every country, one for every language, and a library for every virtually every subject.

These libraries would be operated by those with a serious interest in preserving the materials of a particular language, culture, subject or author– or any other grouping someone was interested in.

Anyone who wanted would be free to created theirs in whatever image they liked simply by collecting the relevant material from existing sources, then adding books of their own interest that might not have been in any other previous collections.

I would like to see enough people working on such eLibraries that virtually every document a person wants that goes into the public domain in a given year should be expected online in that year.

The preservation of the public domain now must be a twofold operation, for once the current element of the public domain is completed, it will become more and more obvious to a public that now rarely thinks about such things, that the public domains of most major countries have been taken hostage– so to speak–and are now being ransomed by public domain thieves and kidnappers who prefer a rather “pay per everything” economic model than thoughts that there should actually been anything free.

As we have seen over the recent years, and indeed over the recent centuries, governments may give a certain lip service pretense to public interests, but when the chips are down, the good reporter as always has to just “follow the money” to find out why the public interest is being sacrificed to an assortment of publishing interests, unified under banners that say “The World Intellectual Property Organization.”

WIPO has, for all intents and purposes, written a series of copyright laws for every major country, starting via its earliest element, The Stationers Guild, later The Stationers Company, from England and thence onwards to forming those international cartels over the last three centuries whose major purpose has been the extension of copyright and a proportional shrinking of the public domain.

Is The Public Domain Really Shrinking

Obviously before copyright it was legal to copy a book from any source, and there was a reason, the rich were the only ones who could afford to copy, and no one makes laws to stop the rich from using their money to do things the commoners can't do.

For the entire history of writing any rich person could hire scribes or monks to spend entire years of their lives of each book they wanted copied.

No one really cared, for who but the rich knew in any detail what they were doing.

Don't forget that only 1% of the world population even knew how to read, and that included mostly a large percentage of the rich nobility, and then a small cadre of scribes and monks who lived at the pleasure of those who sent alms their way.

But Johannes Gutenberg changed all that in ~1450, when he invented a technology so advanced that it allowed commoners to buy books that it previously cost as much to buy as to buy a family farm.

Gutenberg's invention is the root of civilization as we know it, a civilization based on production so powerful that we call is "mass production."

Gutenberg's little print shop could turn out book production that would have taken an army of monks and scribes years to create, and could sell those books at a huge profit for a small fraction of an earlier price structure set by monks and scribes, who had had rather complete monopolies for books, ledgers, pamphlets, even flyers, for millennia.

The immediate results were staggering.

Within 50 years of Gutenberg's invention books in numbers greater than all the books ever made were on the market at prices the masses could afford.

The result was that literacy expanded beyond that 1% level it had been ordained at for a millennium after millennium after millennium of history, and for the first time the masses had information not given to them from the mouths of the rich nobles.

This upset the applecart, so to speak, and nobles were never, ever, able to put the genie back into the bottle. . .not with all the King's horses and all the King's men.

There is no way to overestimate the effect of The Gutenberg Press.

In the end The Gutenberg Press is responsible for revolutions in literacy, the arts, sciences, even for the rebirth of the ancient civilizations such as is known as The Rennaissance, and thence on to The Scientific Revolution.

Scholars will argue that there were other causes, and they can point out smaller specifics for such other pretenders to the throne of such civilizing forces, but their examples are pittances compared to the magnitude of The Gutenberg Press.

Just one small counterexample would be 95 Theses, by Martin Luther, that literally shook The Church of The Holy Roman Empire to its foundations.

Without The Gutenberg Press it is highly unlikely that anyone but a few close friends would have an idea of what Luther was saying, other than a very few The Church would have sent to flay him alive, and force him to recant in public a la Galileo.

As it was, The Gutenberg Press gave Martin Luther a form of leverage previously unknown, The Church had no idea how to deal with it.

It was, as they say, “The Day the World Changed.”

“A Lever Long Enough and I Will Move the Earth.”

So said Archimedes thousands of years ago.

Johannes Gutenberg provided that lever, and Earth was definitely moved.

While The Church had been able to stifle the work of Galileo and others by simply burning the books they wrote and often burning the authors, this is a different proposition entirely when there might be a world full of such mass produced books.

Martin Luther became too famous, too fast for The Church to be able to wipe out without effects too far and wide. . .the result of a new leverage for the individual to move the mass of institutions a world had previously seen as immovable.

“There is no power greater than I idea whose time has come.” Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

When an object that has remained immovable for an entire history of civilization meets irresistible forces that are newborn, the immovable object has no chance, for the newborn irresistable force has all of its growth ahead

of it while the object in questions has all of its growth behind it.

When Irresistible Force Meets An Immovable Object

[Much more on this subject in my other articles– start with The Fifth Information Age, etc.]

However this would not be the last book stifling.

As soon as the monks and stationers realized that their histories long monopoly on bookmaking was a thing of the past they started a long complicated set of political and legal wranglings that failed again and again and again for over 150 years, but that did not deter them, for they knew their very existence depended on that monopoly.

Henry VI was on the throne when they started, and refused to undo the effect of The Gutenberg Press so they could regain their monopoly.

Even "The Restoration" that ousted Edward IV, and put Henry VI back on the throne would not restore the monopoly of The Stationers, and nor would the coronation of Edward V.

Even the reign of Richard The Lionhearted of fame in so many areas resisted The Stationers: as did that of his successor, Henry VII.

Henry VIII was suitably lobbied by The Stationers for decades, but never felt they should get their monopoly back by royal decree, nor would they get any such satisfaction from daughter Elizabeth I.

In between those two, The Stationers failed via a series of attempts at Edward VI, Mary, and Philip & Mary, who reigned between father and daughter.

Even James I of King James' Bible fame, would not yield to their pressures, nor would Charles I, or The Commonwealth, or Charles II or James II.

The list is long, and I intentionally included it for the purpose of making sure you understand the great resistance to copyright.

William & Mary would not be swayed, nor a William reigning alone, but finally Queen Anne propped up by a menagerie of political forces, succumbed for the necessary moment, after over 150 years, and a dozen and a half reigns back to Gutenberg's day.

In 1709-10, various editions of the first working copyright law were passed, in great turmoil and a country that had boasted 6,000 books in print for previous years was reduced to having only 600, as a result of the immediate

takeover of publishing, all publishing, by The Stationers Company.

The days of unlimited publication were over.

I won't go into detail here about how restrictive was the reign of The Stationers, or how other law was created in other countries at their behest.

Suffice it to say that there have been five great technological revolutions in publishing that were headed off from changing the world in this manner since then:

1. The Internet: Stifled by 1998 US Copyright.
2. Xerox Presses: Stifled by 1976 US Copyright.
3. Electric Presses: Stifled by 1909 US Copyright.
4. Steam Presses: Stifled by 1831 US Copyright.
5. Gutenberg Press: Stifled by 1709 Copyright

In the last 100 years along, US Copyright removed millions of books from what would have been their rightful public domain status under the law under which they were contracted for, paid for and then eventually published: leaving a public without a large portion of the public domain.

In fact, before the 1909 copyright, most US books expired in 30 years, simply because publishers in those days did not renew copyrights on many books other than the top selling 10%.

Under pressure from The Stationers Guild and such modern new decsendants as "The World Intellectual Property Organization," now supported by a United Nations mandate, no less, copyrights have been in a state of flux, changing every time publishing's power elite decide they want to kill off a public domain that has already been reduced to fractions and ever smaller fractions.

In 1900 US copyright was such that literally half of all copyrighted materials had expired at given times of history, leaving half under copyright as seemed to be the wishes of the founding fathers.

However, under the 1998 US Copyright Act we might expect 99.99% of copyrights ever issued, to still be in force by the time the first one of the 1998 copyrights expires in just under 100 years.

What Will Project Gutenberg Be in 100 Years?

Thus I fully expect that Project Gutenberg or its descendants could create an eLibrary of virtually everything they can find in the public domain and do it

before 2020, when I expect it should become obvious to all that the number of eBooks selected from public domain is declining, simply because a public domain source has been exhausted via legal wranglings of the publishing industry and that no more copyright expirations but significantly less copyright expirations are taking place, in an age labeled as “The Information Age,” but really is a “New Dark Age” introduced by the publishers via a continuing expansion of copyright, and continuing the rape and pillage of the public domain started by that first copyright law promoted for so long, over a period of 18 Kings and Queens of England.

The growth of Project Gutenberg is simple to make predictions for, as long as you stick to the book population that is already in the public domain– at least in the US.

[Note bene: some more fascistic countries have a legal process whereby books are actually illegal, after a certain date, whereas they were OK before that date, in terms of being public domain. That includes The United Kingdom, Germany and Italy.]

Right now there are probably at least 20 million, or so, books in the public domain in most places. Presuming the following growth rate of eBooks for free download during any given year:

2006 1.0 million 2007 1.5 million 2008 2.0 million 2009 2.5 million 2010 3.0 million

it will take only a very slight increase in eBook production each year as far as yearly rates go to be sure the total reaches 10 million before 2020, in fact, my own prediction is that it will not be nearly as long as until 2020.

However, once 10 million eBook ARE available, the truth will become obvious that it is not going be nearly the same for the next 10 million, as WIPO, and others such as Disney and other megacorps had always planned for no copyright expirations.

Thus the battle will not be to find ways of doing more and more public domain books, but to keep up the existence of the public domain at all as none of the titles published under the new laws should ever be expected to become public domain under an increasingly repressive copyrights structure laid down by WIPO and the other publishing interests.

The whole idea[l] from their perspective is to an electronic “pay per” system in which nothing free ever comes the way of the public.

Governments are willing to go along with this for an assortment of reasons:

1. An ignorant public is easily manipulated.

2. The publishers lobbyists make it “valuable.”

3. All of the “pay per” transactions = taxable!

Project Gutenberg: Common Misconceptions The Most Common Misconceptions About Project Gutenberg

Last update: February 27, 2007

These are the mistakes most commonly found in the press coverage concerning Project Gutenberg:

1.

There are only 20,000 Project Gutenberg eBooks.

Actually, as of this end of the week in which I am writing this should be closer to 25,000 than to 20,000, including the subtracting out of 350 duplicate entries via PG of Europe.

This is just the number on the original site:

http://www.gutenberg.org

Don’t forget the ~80,000 at

http://www.gutenberg.cc

Actually there are about 100,000 grand total. Nearly 80,000 are at http://www.gutenberg.cc, not to mention European and Australian sites.

1. There is only one official Project Gutenberg site.

Here is a list of the official sites and numbers of books:

http://www.gutenberg.org About 22,500 items.

http: PG of Australia About 1,500 items.

http: PG of Europe About 500 items.

http://www.gutenberg.cc About 80,000 items.

http://www.readingroo.ms About 400 items, another 400 soon.

Keep an eye out for Project Gutenbergs of Canada, Portugal, the Philippines, etc.

1.

All Project Gutenberg files are public domain.

About 2% of our files are copyrighted, used with permission.

1.

You can't choose what fonts, colors, margins, etc., to use with the plain text Project Gutenberg eBooks.

Plain text eBooks appear in YOUR choice of default fonts. There are any number of fonts, colors, etc., to read in.

However, a great many highly paid pundits seem to know no way to select these and complain about their own defaults.

1.

Project Gutenberg is the same as The World eBook Fair

The world eBook Fair is a consortium of eBook providers who get together once a year to demonstrate the numbers and power of eBooks, both free and commercial.

The First World eBook Fair was in July, 2006 and had an estimated 1/3 million eBooks available, and gave away a million eBooks, or close to it, on most weekdays.

There was an attempt at a Second World eBook Fair later in 2006, but various elements kept the project from the same success, so it has been rescheduled for July, 2007 with 2/3 to 3/4 million eBooks.

1.

Michael Hart is officially with University of Illinois departments, programs, etc.

While he is a highly honored graduate, there has been, and remains, no official connection, though maybe that will change in the near future.

1.

Project Gutenberg eBooks are subject to data loss that the media sometimes refers to as “bit rot,” in which a medium is used that either degrades over time, or that requires a certain kind of computer to read, and would be totally useless without that kind of computer.

This kind of argument has often been used by those who would like to prevent eBooks from becoming “the medium of choice,” but the arguments all hinge on a big false assumption, that data must be stored only in one place and trickle down to the world from there.

In this case I often like to quote Linus Torvalds, the author of another open source project, Linux, who says

“Only wimps use backup; real men just upload important files on FTP and let the rest of the world mirror it.”

Note, FTP servers were the predecessors of the servers using HTTP that run The World Wide Web.

The general idea/ideal was that these “anonymous” file servers allowed anyone to download all the files via a similar method as today, but without “cookies” and the other things that require leaving your name behind.

Project Gutenberg eBooks are still available via these anonymous FTP servers [File Transfer Protocol], around the world, and on many other kinds of sites.

There are so many sites carrying Gutenberg books, that anything short of a worldwide catastrophic failure for the entire Internet would still leave plenty of copies for free download at any time.

Not one single Project Gutenberg eBook has ever been a victim of “bit rot” as perpetrated by various media to convince people that anything stored in a computer has to be considered as temporary because the drives fail, the CDs and DVDs rot over the years, etc., but not one of these take into account the original philosophy for the distribution of Project Gutenberg eBooks:

“Unlimited Distribution.”

Long before the media ever started complaining about a brand new phenomenon of losing millions of dollars, or perhaps even billions, in computers run by governments or academics, the ideal of Unlimited Distribution took all the winds out of such arguments, other, of course, than for those who simply refused to allow copies made in enough places to insure the safety of the data.

Yes, some Project Gutenberg eBooks have disappeared on the original servers, I have witnessed it myself: but a simple note I sent out got me copies back because it is a fairly standard worldwide policy that persons are backing up, or mirroring, our books from the moment of their first appearance.

Thus, even some eBooks that disappeared from all three servers I put them on between midnight and dawn, still were preserved elsewhere, and were easily replaced.

In Defense of Project Gutenberg: The Early 2007 Edition

Project Gutenberg has been under attack since before the founding of The World Wide Web, both from those who will state they support electronic text and electronic books, to those who will state they support Project Gutenberg– and of course from those who will flatly state a support of paper books that should continue, as much as possible as they think they have for hundreds of years.

These attacks come in many forms, from proposals that an eBook library should only appear in certain formats, and that eBooks appearing in any other format should have to be removed from circulation. . .a sort of new electronic book burning. . .to flat statements that an eBook has NO value whatsoever if it is not identified with some exact paper edition, complete with errors. . .to the fact that no one would ever actually READ a book from a screen, to a number of other examples, some included below.

The most vociferous and vitriolic attacks come from some who feel that only their own personal book tastes should rule the entire worldwide field of electronic books.

If you don't feel that eBooks are a worldwide field just do some searches for the various terms ebook, ebooks and e-book, e-books versus the terms bomb and bombs; even at the height of the various Middle East bombings, searches of this nature showed a surprising fact that eBooks were mentioned more than bombs. . .a remarkable feat for some field that many in the library and publishing field were trying to denigrate as not being of any consequence.

Project Gutenberg Is Not Due To Anyone's Personal Taste

I am often asked by our volunteers what books I want for the future of Project Gutenberg, and I politely decline, stating from the very outset that I did not want eBooks, particularly Project Gutenberg eBooks, to reflect any of my own personal taste, and that each volunteers would be welcome to choose their own favorites.

In the same senses, I have been unwilling to state which fonts, font sizes, margin length, page length, etc., may be my own personal favorite. . .I leave that up to those whom will be reading the books.

However, great numbers of pundits are willing to state a number of preferences, and to state for me that I have a preference for something else, when the truth is that my own preferences have never been stated.

Project Gutenberg eBooks are plain, so plain, in fact, I am accused of requiring that they be plain, but that has not been the case, it was just how the earliest of these eBooks were prepared, and how plain eBooks easily can be moved from platform to platform, not always perfectly in terms of changing preferences of hard and soft returns– but still reasonably readable in nearly any combinations of hardware and software out there.

This cannot be said for any of the other formats various people have proposed for eBooks.

However, Project Gutenberg welcomes eBooks in all format choices, whether they be new or old, though we would try to also make them available in other formats so we could bring as many books to as many people as possible.

To Bring As Many Books To As Many People As Possible

The ideal of Project Gutenberg is to raise literacy rate numbers around the world, as stated in our motto:

“To Break Down The Bars Of Ignorance And Illiteracy.”

Project Gutenberg does not exist to increase literacy in only terms of certain groups, but of the whole world.

To bring eBooks to the entire world means we have to see that the processes are simple.

This is not to say that the more academic elite will not be able to create some complex system of eBook format to preserve certain aspects of certain editions only elites of the academic world would actually recognize, but that for the person who has never read Shakespeare, that many of the arguments about the various editions simply don’t apply in the face of getting a readable edition to them.

The truth is that other than the First Folio, which will hardly suit anyone, but the most ivory tower of readers, nearly any of the popular Shakespeare

editions will read very much the same to the first time reader and that the subtle nuances argued about by scholars turn out to be– or not to be–even 1% of the actual content.

Another truth is that I simply refuse to get involved in such petite bourgeois argumentation as to which is best:

To be or not to be. To be, or not to be. To be; or not to be. To be: or not to be. To be-or not to be. To be–or not to be. To be - or not to be. To be – or not to be.

or any similar arguments that have minimal bearing to an effort of a first time reader of Shakespeare.

Project Gutenberg, while it already has the half a dozen most popular editions of Shakespeare, wasn't designed to suit the needs or desires of the academic elite who have multiple editions of Shakespeare already at hand, but to bring the world of books to those who do NOT have such.

The same holds true for all those who think their format or their font or their other personal tastes should rule the world of eBooks.

When these people complain that Project Gutenberg is not offering support of their format choices, what they were really complaining about is that Project Gutenberg would not support their format to the exclusion of others.

Project Gutenberg: Inclusive or Exclusive?

To be inclusive or to be exclusive, that is the question we should all be asking of Project Gutenberg.

From back in the day when we only had a dozen eBooks, we received "nastygrams" that we had not chosen the edition that was the favorite of a certain person or group.

This continued even when included multiple editions, for it was not only the point of these complainers that some particular editions be included, but that all others out there should be excluded.

This continued to questions of markup, formats, etc., to the point where The Library of Congress, in its infinite wisdom, refused to even mention plain text as a format– in its 1992 "Workshop On Electronic Texts" that possibly would never have taken place without Project Gutenberg.

Yes, any number of eText/eBook formats were mentioned to an agonizing

point, but not plain text.

This is because each of these formats had some political group promoting it, with Adobe's .pdf format leading the way, but never quite making it to their goal of being an only officially adopted format for government documents.

Wow! Think of the billions of dollars poor Adobe lost!

Project Gutenberg simply continued being inclusive and a large number of formats have been tried, more welcome.

Around the same time the Text Encoding Initiative [TEI], was even more actively trying to eliminate plain text.

I won't go into details, as I promised not to when I was granted an interview, but the Text Encoding Initiative's goals were neither to encode texts nor for initiative.

There are any number of similar efforts promoting theirs in a similar manner. . .creating standards, then hoping, and more or less only hoping, that the world should beat a path to their doorway, making them rich and famous.

Project Gutenberg invites each and every one of these to run their format up the flagpole to see who will salute, but even the most energetic of these promoters seems for some reason or another to never convert even 1% of those Project Gutenberg eBooks into their chosen format.

Meanwhile, several other independent efforts who had NOT tried to get Project Gutenberg to announce their formats as "The Official Project Gutenberg Format" had converted virtually all the 20,000+ internally produced eBooks for their own reformatting, and put them on the open market.

"Put them on the open market."

Hmmm.

That's the major difference here between the complainers and those who actually get out there and do things.

The complainers want to be crowned king before they will even create the land they would rule.

The doers are willing to do all the work required to get what they want, and then to promote it.

It turns out that each of those promoting their formats, and there are plenty, says that it is trivial to convert eBooks to and from these formats. . .well. . .that's the way it starts. . . .

However, after challenging these people to do this quite trivial thing, it turns out that it is not so trivial.

After all the dust has quite settled, they finally admit that they need lots of help getting eBooks INTO the very format they said is so trivial, and then, AFTER all this work has been accomplished. . .by others. . .only then a trivial process could be used to get the eBooks back OUT and into any number of other formats.

When questioned further, it seems that it should take as much effort to convert already existing eBooks into some format in question as it took to create the eBook in the first place. . .doubling the effort required.

Far from trivial.

Personally, I would rather have twice as many books in a variety of formats than half as many books all in a cute format I hadn't really tried out yet.

However, I should add that there are plenty out there in the eBook world who feel just the opposite, that the new world of eBooks should be half as numerous, but twice as pretty to look at.

Here, again, we devolve into a matter of personal taste.

Here, again, I refuse to argue about personal taste, and refuse to impose anyone's personal taste, no matter what kind of ivory tower elite kennel club pedigree, on those people to whom I have dedicated Project Gutenberg.

Project Gutenberg is for everyone.

Project Gutenberg is for everyone to create eBooks.

Project Gutenberg is for everyone to read eBooks.

Project Gutenberg is for everyone to distribute eBooks.

Making those eBooks more cumbersome, in format, in size, in programming needs, in sacrosanct [sic] errors of what is terms a "canonical nature," and all that stuff is not what Project Gutenberg is all about.

Though such books are welcome, along with all others.

Such Books Are Welcome, Along With All Others

There's the rub for so many of the academic elite.

If all others are welcome, where did eliteness go?

The truth is that eliteness went out with Gutenberg.

Which Gutenberg?

Both Gutenbergs!

Johannes Gutenberg's printing press changed the world of books from a history of where the average book price was as much as the average family farm to a world where book prices were so low that wagonloads of books showed up in the countryside on market day, and even the poor village got to see and buy these books.

Within just 50 years of Gutenberg's invention more books had been made than in all previous world history.

Project Gutenberg's eBooks changed the world of books to a place where a computer costing less than $1,000 now is capable of holding a million eBooks, along with all that other stuff people keep putting in their computers.

A million books for a thousand dollars?

That's a thousand books per dollar. . . .

Not even Herr Gutenberg dreamed of such a thing. . . .

I am dreaming of a day in 2021 when I hope there will be a billion free books to download. . .10 million books in each of 100 different languages.

A billion books for a thousand dollars?

That's a million books per dollar. . . .

???????!!!!!!!

Why I started My Blog

I started this blog for two major reasons, one was positive, one was anti-negative, hopefully you'll see the difference– that difference was one of the greatest discoveries I made.

The first reason was to leave behind a somewhat coherent set of my thoughts about the Brave New World of the Internet.

The other was because those thoughts were being distorted by the very people to whom I had sent them to archive, the list moderators who said they wanted them.

While I certainly lay no claims to inventing the Internet, I was the first I have ever heard of to understand what it was to become over the first few decades of its existence: this pioneering spirit is usually one of the first things to go– once the "dude" and "suits" have their way and starting with the politicking that places people in power who have no idea of the who, what, where, how, why and when power originated, the power they have usurped from those who created it. In a much better statement than I could make here, Ayn Rand tells about this kind of "second hand" power broker in her books– Atlas, Shrugged, The Fountainhead, and Anthem. Anthem is on Project Gutenberg and is a very quick read, so get started– Atlas Shrugged is one of my two favorite books of all time– but it is a thousand pages, so I can't say get started on it in quite the same manner–not to mention that you will enjoy The Fountainhead much more if you read it before Atlas.

The second hand power brokers I refer to here are moderators of the Internet "lists," those virtual meeting places, where people gather to discuss nearly everything.

Moderators, by their very definition, should be moderate, at least in their moderation of such lists. The best lists are those where you never see the moderators' actions.

I ran some of the early lists starting in the late eighties, lists that had thousands of members, without ever having the need to make my presence felt as a moderator.

"Power corrupts, and absolute power, corrupts absolutely."

It is very difficult for any moderator to use these kinds of power moderately as each time one does it, it is like using, if you will pardon my descent into fictional examples: like using the power of The Ring or the power of The Dark Side.

I have seen more than one nice sweet real life librarian say and do the most awful things when corrupted by this power.

Not to mention the hordes of moderators who were never sweet librarian types to begin with.

[And, by the way, Star Wars is the story of Darth Vader, not of Luke Skywalker according to George Lucas, and The Ring is the story of, well, The Ring, whether it be Tolkien, Wagner, or the ancient stories from which they were taken.

Once a moderator gets a taste of that kind of power, it is a step by step, act by act, descent into Dante's Inferno. You should at least take a look at the Cliff's Notes version.

One might think that someone whose life's work was creations of various aspects of the first electronic library would not have much to say that would/ could/should be censored, and it would be myself who would be the first to agree with you.

Particularly since I have avoided the role of moderator, and of chooser of what books, format, etc. such a library would/ should/could take.

My critics, however, would take over such electronic library systems and their features, and force me to reply to efforts to do so on a continuing basis.

Wait a minute!

I just said I avoided the role of moderator, but said before that that I WAS a moderator.

What's the deal?

The deal is that I never once used the power, I ran what was called "an unmoderated list."

The term moderated has become twisted, like "civil servant," which translates more properly into "civil master."

People are "moderated" offline in various lists to where you can't hear or see them any longer unless you go to them in a direct manner, they are no longer heard in the discussions I saw them help create.

I have been a victim of this probably more than most, and it is probably simply for two reasons

1. I have more to say than most.
2. I have more critics than most.
3. These critics are expert at starting "flame wars" then a following note to the moderator complaining that I am an awful influence on the list

because I responded to their flaming rants and raves.

I can't go any further with this logic, at least on lists, a certain "Law" derived from a certain EFF lawyer bars the way on most Internet conversations.

Nevertheless, it has been quite amazing to note how Internet development, or redevelopment, has been structured by those, those "second hand" power brokers who had nothing to do with the creation of the power they are trying to broker.

I refer also to the "dudes" and "suits" who invented some of the tricky ways to "second hand" power via the route of:

"Netiquette"

I won't say much about netiquette other than to say that the terms came into much disrepute after some very early netter, I'm not sure I ever met, made it a point to point and point, and point out again, that these "Netiquetters" were working, and working very hardly, to take control over something they had not created.

Once again I refer you to Atlas Shrugged, where this is very well described in a manner beyond what I can do here.

Nevertheless, "Netiquette," as a movement, was quashed.

However, I worry what will happen in the future as I am sure some future "second handers" will dig it up from its grave– just as assuredly as other second handers have done with the other movements of its kind.

The reason "netiquette" and "moderation" are so easy to poke holes in, and thence to watch the person using them noisily, flatulently actually, fly around the room backwards spitting out the hot air than inflated them in the first place is the simple reason that no one can interrupt anyone else on lists of this kind. . .that is. . .no one but the moderator.

What possible reason could there be for censoring someone in a forum where everyone can be heard, heard all the time.

Anyone who wants to take the time can write the very most of well-prepared and well-researched piece to cast light on the darkest situations, and no one can stop them, excepting, the list moderators. Cue Darth Vader's Theme, please. . . .

Since the "delete key" is the most powerful weapon of such a virtual

universe, there is no need for mass censorship, such power is ultimate and in the hands of every individual.

The ONLY REASON for using the power of the Dark Side is from the perspective of not allowing someone to communicate to an audience who wants to hear.

The audience who does NOT want to hear, has ultimate power.

BUT. . .!!!

That is not enough for those who ascribe to The Dark Side!!!

They want to ensure that no one ever hears or sees at all.

Thus is the power of The Dark Side made obvious to all.

/

This isn't the only power of The Dark Side, of course, there is also the power of The Dark Ages which I reference in such articles and essays as "The Chandelier Diatribe."

In these essays I respond to those who would quite take over the aspects of building an electronic public library such to stop the spread of knowledge. . .under the spell of:

"Knowledge Is Power"

I leave you today with these two examples:

There are two Shakespeare professors [pick your own subject] who each say they are the world's greatest.

One demonstrates this by stating that there are some items a public will never understand about Shakespeare, because only the elite Shakespeare professors know them.

The other says, "I am the world's greatest professor in such Shakepearean lore, because I have taught more people more of Shakespeare than anyone else."

One believes "knowledge is power" means don't share it and I remark that this leaves a world filled with darkness.

The other believes that "knowledge is power" means share it, and I remark

that this leaves a world filled with light.

“Tis better to light a single candle than to curse the darkness. . . .”

Introduction to Michael Hart’s blog

http://pglaf.org/~hart/

This blog is intended to change the world.

Better yet, to help YOU change the world!

If you are NOT interested in making the world a better place, this is NOT the place for you.

Each of the articles here is designed specifically to address some way of changing the world to make it a better place.

YOU are the designated driver on this trip, these articles an assortment of maps of how such driving might take place.

The perspective is that of changing the world from the bottom rather than changing things from the top down.

If I had waited for those at the top to approve of what I was planning to do, even waited HALF as long as they wanted, then you would never heard of me or of Project Gutenberg.

In the same breath that the authorities say I should have had to wait for their approval they also say I did not start soon enough to get the credit Project Gutenberg and I receive.

Before eBooks became a household word, with more hits than an advanced search for “bomb” or bombs” the authority figures in my life made it a point to ignore eBook altogether.

Now they are scrambling to find someone already in their used Pantheon of acceptable authorities to credit with eBooks.

The only trouble is that no one out there was pushing eBooks, though there were some trying to pull them into very limited, very controlled, and VERY expensive distribution, in just the exact opposite of my own “Unlimited Distribution” methodology that succeeded where the studied methodologies of the greater university minds failed.

I had a note saying, “Just Do It!” over my desk long before a sports shoe

company tried it on for size.

A Glossary

“Limited Distribution” Versus “Unlimited Distribution”

“Ye Olde Boye Networke”

“Think Globally, Act Globally, Even From Your Basement”

“Reactionary Politics”

“Eldred Versus Ashcroft” and “Hart Versus Reno”

“Up To Modern Times”

Glossary

“Limited Distribution”. . .the ideal of exchange contributing to the rise and fall of all civilizations in history. Basics of this philosophy date back to the simple amoeba, “better if *I* have it, and YOU do NOT have it.” This ideal permeates a civilization that defines itself through its possessions, and not through what people actually are. The favorite Star Trek quotation addresses this very topic in Captain Picard replies to the zillionaire who, upon finding out there is no money in the 24th century, asks, “Then what do you invest in?” Picard answers, “We invest in ourselves.”

“Unlimited Distribution”. . .the ideal of exchange in which a product is made available without any artificial limitations, placed in a manner that makes it available without cost or of any limitations on how much of it anyone can have. Before an Internet publication of The Declaration of Independence, back in 1971, there was only one example of anything persons could have all they wanted of. . .can you name it?

“The Olde Boye Networke”. . .a term used to describe those in power who manipulate the overall socio-economic-legal systems to artificially keep themselves in power, aggrandize position placement to even greater power, and artificially keep others from improving their own position in the new power structure, i.e. the new power structure should resemble old ones as much as possible, and even moreso, in that new rules should now be created to make the position of those who succeeded under the olde systeme even more impregnable. In relation to Gutenberg this would start with the 250 years it took The Stationers to create a “royal patent” that outlawed The Gutenberg Press and finally gave them back their monopoly over published words.

“Think Globally, Act Globally”

“Unlimited Distribution” can be used to make the work of just one single person available to a billion people overnight via the Internet and related media. In Project Gutenberg’s case, you could spend a week of spare time creating an eBook to put online at hundreds or thousands of servers overnight. Ideals of Unlimited Distribution allow just one person to elevate an entire world of civilizations at one stroke just as Gutenberg presses allowed someone such as Martin Luther’s revolution of the religious power structure of the Western World. Did your study of history mention that Martin Luther would most likely never have been heard of if not for Gutenberg? Why not?

Can One Person Really “Think Globally” and “Act Globally?”

Just as the power structure of the world has been changed for better or worse by the blogs that brought down Dan Rather, an example of the most power media personalities of modern ages, and nearly brought down George Bush, United States President, the power structure of Western religion was shaken greatly by The 95 Theses sent by Martin Luther to a few friends and then sent on by those friends to the rest of the world through the new medium recently created by Johannes Gutenberg.

“Reactionary Politics”. . .a term used to describe reactions, usually powerful political responses, to new change. In this case of Johannes Gutenberg, the Reactionary Politics were the efforts of The Stationers Company to regain their monopolies, once those monopolies had been shattered by Gutenberg. These efforts took place over one and a half centuries, from reigns of Henry VI and the Restoration through Richard III, and thus The Crusades, through all six wives of Henry VIII, Elizabeth, his daughter, and James I, of The King James Bible, and, even on through William and Mary to Anne. If you have studied the history of the period, you know how much turmoil took place– this was the era of Robin Hood, the first lawful execution of lawfully annointed monarchs, The Crusades, The New World, and a host of other events that really warrant more time in those damned history books. That The Stationers Company should NOT have been able to push through their Reactionary Policies for 250 years of such turmoil says more about how bad their ideal of a publishing monopoly was perceived by the following:

Edward IV 4 Mar 1461 9 Apr 1483 Henry VI - restored 9 Oct 1470 to c. Apr 1471 Edward V 9 Apr 1483 25 Jun 1483 Richard III 26 Jun 1483 22 Aug 1485 Henry VII 22 Aug 1485 21 Apr 1509 Henry VIII 22 Apr 1509 28 Jan 1547 Edward VI 28 Jan 1547 06 Jul 1553 Mary 6 Jul 1553 24 Jul 1554 Philip & Mary 25 Jul 1554 17 Nov 1558 Elizabeth I 17 Nov 1558 24 Mar

1603 James I 24 Mar 1603 27 Mar 1625 Charles I 27 Mar 1625 30 Jan 1649 Commonwealth 30 Jan 1649 29 May 1660 Charles II [30 Jan 1649] 6 Feb 1685 James II 6 Feb 1685 11 Dec 1688 William & Mary 13 Feb 1689 08 Mar 1702 [Mary died 27 Dec 1694] William III 27 Dec 1694 8 Mar 1702 Anne 8 Mar 1702 1 Aug 1714

The result of all this Reactionary Politicking was eventually to become the first Copyright Act, "The Statute of Anne," but there were numerous "Royal Patents" issued earlier that could just not be enforced, as no one believed The Stationers could be trusted with such great monopolistic power. . .until Anne, such a weak monarch that she could be manipulated to censored oversight of all publishing in Great Britain. The numbers of books in print there dropped from 6,000 to 600 overnight, and a new profession of publishing censored materials was created that later helped "The Pamphleteers" in their quest to create The United States of America later in that century.

Just a note about how much difference this new law made.

In the first 50 years of The Gutenberg Press, more books were made than in all the previous history of the entire world and the total number of titles published by 1500 was ~30,000.

Can you image what it would be like to have the number of the books you could order drop from 30,000 to 600. . .overnight?

That would mean only 2 books out of 100 would survive!!!

By the way, the United States Supreme Court recently upheld a new copyright law that will do the same to the public domain.

The History of Reactionary Copyright Law

[See more details in "The Fifth Information Age"]

We have had five "Information Age" technological revolutions, from The Gutenberg Press to The Age of the Internet, and each one of these has been stifled by reactionary copyright laws.

Each one of these five technological revolutions could have a history of changing the face of the history of civilization:

1. ~1450 The Gutenberg Press
2. ~1830 The High Speed Steam Powered Press
3. ~1900 The Electric Printing Press

4. ~1970 The Xerox Machine

5. ~1993 The World Wide Web

but. . .only some of them did.

Why?

The five technological revolutions were each counteracted via reactionary politics to make them illegal.

1. The Gutenberg Press

The First Examples of Reactionary Politics Copyright.

The roots of our modern copyright law come from The Gutenberg Press and The Stationers' reactionary political efforts.

Before the advent of The Gutenberg Press around 1450 the book as we know it barely existed, the same is true for literacy.

The numbers of books, handwritten manuscripts actually, owned the average people before The Gutenberg Press was zero.

The literacy rate was almost zero, the illiteracy rate ~100%, most historians were unwilling to actually mention a literacy rate of 0%, so the records show a literacy rate of 1%.

However, any way you let them eat cake, when you cut the cake it is obvious that only the richest of the rich, the elitists of the elite, actually did any significant amount of reading.

The point of bringing this up; is that no one has ever passed laws the only targeted the behavior of the rich and elite, so in the times when books and reading were the strict provinces of the rich and elite, it was totally legal to copy anything, simply because only the rich and elite could benefit.

However, with the advent of The Gutenberg Press, printing was elevated to the point where there were 30,000 titles in print by the end of the 1400's and more books had been printed than in those 50 years than in thousands of years previously.

Previous to The Gutenberg Press the Stationers Guilds had the monopoly to publish just about everything, along with scribes and monks of various religious institutions.

When The Gutenberg Press destroyed that monopoly, by enabling the mass production of books, the Stationers made a political overture to have The Gutenberg Press outlawed and to return a total monopoly to them, and to the monks and scribes, who now would also be using The Gutenberg Press.

The story is long, and full of failures on their part, but an effort in 1557, "The Statute of Mary," was finally passed but it gave such overwhelming power to the Stationers Guilds that it was neither obeyed nor even was an attempt to enforce this law ever really made because it was so unpopular.

This law, technically a "patent" in those days, gave all such power of copyright to the Stationers for every word written– even words written thousands of years earlier.

However, the Stationers Guilds, later the Stationers Company, did not give up, and after another 150 years of lobbying they finally found another weak Queen they could manipulate.

Thus, "The Statute of Anne" became law in 1709-1710, the date is fuzzy because this law, too, was very unpopular, and a few alterations had to be made before it could be enforced.

The major change was that after a 14 year copyright, owned by the Stationers, the author could renew the copyright for some additional 14 year period, but only if the author was alive– not a given back in those days–and if the book was selling– otherwise the Stationers couldn't be expected to print it.

The result was that the number of titles in printed in United Kingdom locations fell from 6,000 to 600 overnight.

Not to mention that some tens of thousands of titles in print in other countries could not be reprinted.

The overall effect was to shut down all English free presses, and to enforce a rigid form of censorship, which Queen Anne's weakness made seem feasible to her.

Having seen the results of The Gutenberg Press in the effects of the printing of Martin Luther's "95 Theses," and also from the effect of the printing of the Bible in various languages, the Roman Catholic Church was also afraid of the free presses and supported elimination of all but 10 legal presses, all in London locations.

If you have read anything about London society in those days, then you

understand what it would have been like for those in other locations to have to travel to London and deal with the London society to get anything published.

Thus The First Information Age was stifled by copyright law.

The ban on publishing was very successful, and eventually led to various revolts against it, not the least of which was the “War of Insurrection” that founded the United States.

1. The High Speed Steam Powered Press

The Second Example of “Reactionary Politics” and Copyright.

United States Copyright Law dates back to 1790 when there was a 14 year copyright with a 14 year extension. Thus copyright expirations on U.S. copyrights had barely started to happen a period of three decades later in the 1820’s.

The result of the promise of a rich American public domain is obvious. . .the invention of the high speed printing presses, in particular the patent of a high speed steam press in 1830.

Thus, for those who understood the premises and conclusion of the advent of U.K. copyright law, the conclusion was obvious:

A new copyright law was passed just one year after the patent of the high speed steam press to preserve the monopoly of the “olde boye networke” of publishers. . .even in a country that was still young enough to have citizens older that it was.

The U.S. Copyright Act of 1831 was specifically designed from the single point of view to stop the competition of outsiders using the new high speed steam powered presses.

Thus the era of the new publishing houses powered by the high speed steam printing press patented in 1830 became perhaps an example of just how short an Information Age could be made by the outside influence of “ye olde boyes” political power.

Thus The Second Information Age was stifled by copyright law.

1. ~1900 The Electric Printing Press

There isn’t enough time here to go into the entire revolution created by electricity, so I have written a separate article, or two, entitled “Electric

Park” describing the days when the advent of electricity and light bulbs was such a grand item a person or family might take train rides, on an electric train of course, to an “Electric Park” lit up by thousands of light bulbs outlining the various structures of the parks.

However, it should be obvious to even the most casual thought process that electricity would revolutionize printing presses as much as steam had.

The most visible example was that for millions of people, the first book they over owned was The Sears Catalog, a free book delivered right to their door via the combination of three of the great events of the turn of the century to 1900:

The Transcontinental Railroad System

Rural Federal Delivery [Mail]

The Electric Printing Press

The realization that the combination of these three events in history, each one a major event, in and of itself, could save enough time, money and effort when combined synergistally, to deliver a 768 page lavishly illustrated book, free of charge, to every one of millions of addresses that should be found by Sears and Roebuck.

The result, however, was to make everyone AWARE that books in the new century could be so inexpensive that they could be an entirely free commodity and that was a threat to ye olde boye networke of publishers.

The result was that once again their political pressures were felt in Washington, and the U.S. Copyright Act of 1909 put an end to The Third Information Age.

However, this Third Information Age lasted much longer than a very short Second Information Age, and even today YOU can see the results in bookstores and libraries, where there are even today copies of the large numbers of inexpensive books from a century ago, but you will notice if you look very far that it pretty much stops after 1909.

Thus The Third Information Age was stifled by copyright law.

1. ~1970 The Xerox Machine

Some of you might remember the earliest photocopiers, and the horrible copies they made, not to mention how bad copies of a copy were in those

days.

Today the people at Kinko's and other locations will properly tell you that they can now often make a better copy from copy sheets than from the originals. . .that is how good photocopy technology has become over the years.

And as soon as the photocopies started to become any good the networks of ye olde boye publishers once again started in for the lobbying campaign to do the same thing they had done from the day of The Gutenberg Press, the steam press, and electric press. . .make a new law the prohibited using this technology on materials that would otherwise have been legal to copy.

The U.S. Copyright Act of 1976 not only extended copyright on materials that were due to expire, but it also removed a need to renew copyrights, thus making the original copyrights into a permanent copyright needing no renewal for longer than what the average human lifetime in the U.S. was at the time.

Before 1976 90% of copyrights had never been renewed, because it wasn't worth to mail in the nominal fee.

The overall effect of the 1976 U.S. Copyright Act was to kill off the public domain, not just make copyrights last a longer period of time if and when they were profitable.

This philosophy is known as "A Dog in the Manger," reflecting on the sometimes true event on farms, of dogs, who didn't eat the hay in the manger for the farm animals, nevertheless will sometimes have a tendency to be proprietary about the mangers and viciously keep the farm animals away from their food even though it is not food fit for a dog.

In this case, the 90% of the books that would have been found in the public domain and not for sale by the publishers of an original edition could no longer be published by anyone else.

Here was a case in which billion dollar publishing industrial giants were claiming it was an undue pressure upon them to do something as simple as mailing in a few dollars for renewals, and the overall effect was to stop anything from entering the public domain ever again, except for a few years between some various copyright acts that took too long to enact.

The overall effect is that no one would ever again be able to look forward to republishing anything they read in their life if they lived the average lifespan.

With a copyright of 75 years, only the eldest of readers will ever live long enough to legally republish what they read for their grade school book reports as public domain materials.

The continuity of past to present to future was lost to those of us who are private individuals and reserved for those with a more corporate approach.

Thus The Fourth Information Age was stifled by copyright law.

1. ~1993 The World Wide Web

[More details on these five in “The Fifth Information Age”]

I won’t go into detail about the beginning of the Web as most of you probably have plenty of first hand experience about it and have even heard of some of the various efforts by ye olde boye networkes to harness it to their own purposes and remove many of the goods and services now placed there for free.

However, I must mention, at least in passing, that the “Sonny Bono” or “Mickey Mouse” Copyright of 1998 was specifically to stop The Fifth Information Age.

I should probably also add that the U.S. Supreme Court Case:

“Eldred versus Ashcroft”

was originally written up as

“Hart versus Reno”

but the case was prepared so poorly in spite of my objections that after five months of spending HUGE amounts of my time on preparing briefs, not one word of which made it to the final, I fired the lawyers with extreme prejudice.

I won’t go into the details unless someone wants to try again with a sincere plan to actually win the case.

In some ways I feel that the loss of this case, 7-2, was what might be described as the worst thing to happen in copyright, since the very first copyright law.

The result was that one million books are not going to be the province of Project Gutenberg or any other public domain site on the Internet originating in the United States or any other of the countries that have extended

copyright by 20 years.

•

“Planned Obsolescence”

Most people think of Planned Obsolescence” as making products in a manner so they wear out fast than they should, they will not usually think of computer age items in such a manner.

Toasters made before WWII still work great, new ones die off.

Nylon made in the early days was nearly impossible to wear in any significant manner, or even cut with scissors, backpacks, windbreakers, ropes, etc., were basically permanent. And the early nylon stockings lasted for months, not weeks.

When the phone companies owned the telephones, they made them so they were basically permanent, look at the difference now.

Even the pots and pans I grew up with were solid enough to be handed down from generation to generation.

Today’s buildings are not even designed to last from marriage past the golden anniversary.

I am sure you have your own examples to add to the list, I do collect such examples, so please let me know.

Meanwhile, back at the Information Age, people think that the computers, etc., are immune from Planned Obsolescence. . .HA!

Just try to run your Windows programs from the old first half of Windows history on versions of Windows from the last half!

Or think of videos you bought. How many times?

U-Matic [Early adopters only here, YOU probably don’t count] Betamax [Intentionally wiped out by the big cartels/zaibatsu] LaserDisc [The first optical disks, a foot in diameter] VideoDisc [Remember, the ones with an actual NEEDLE] VHS [Lasted longer than all the rest put together] DIVX [One of the biggest marketing failures of all time] VHS-C [Another example where YOU probably don’t count] DAT [Digital Audio Tape, started the legal copying war] 8mm [Even smaller than DAT] CD-Video [Again, YOU probably never got involved, copyable] DVD [Announced as copy proof, 15 year old took a week] HDTV [Come Valentine’s Day 2007, better watch out!!!]

The end result is that while you can still play music records from a century ago [I still have a wind up “Victrola], it was legally impossible to copy from any one of those media above, even just to preserve a copy of what you bought when you were not able to buy or fix the old machines. I have not included all the various types, don’t forget “mini-disks,” etc.

The point is that someone who lived through the entire ranges of the video revolution could have easily bought, literally a whole dozen copies of the same movie! I think I have example modules from every one of the above list and even more that I haven’t included on the list.

I also haven’t mentioned that they can make your credit cards expire before their expiration date, just so you advertise an entirely new company name on your Visa card.

All sorts of things are intentionally created to stop working or to not work other than in specific instances.

Sometimes this comes back to byte people in the gluteus max.

A famous example is used by the people who hate computers but are ignorant of the fact that it wasn’t the computer at fault but that the actual design of the computer included many such “proprietary features” that no other computer could read data stored in their “proprietary formats.”

The naysayers like to brag that billions of dollars were lost because computers can’t read the old data, but the truth will be obvious when you realize that the data was MEANT to be for that computer ONLY, and those who BOUGHT the computers BOUGHT them for the purpose of SECURITY.

Well, duh! Too much security means that no one can come help you read your data when your computer breaks down now for the very last time and THEY DIDN’T MAKE BACKUPS!!!

WHO’S FAULT IS THAT!!!

It’s not the fault of the computer.

It’s the fault of the ideal of keeping data private.

Up To Modern Times

But. . .there are some new kinds of “Planned Obsolescence” in the Information Age. . .some legislated, some quite clearly a violation of legislation.

February 17, 2007, a date that will live in infamy, we should see hundreds of millions of televisions lining the sidewalks, all over the country, except perhaps a few will be preserved, along the borders where they can still pick up signals from a few stations in Canada or Mexico, and a few saved in museums.

Right now most of the new-fangled televisions sell for a huge fortune compared to their olde thyme counterparts, hardly any of the people I know are looking at ones much under $2,000.

But for the sake of making an argument no one could challenge on the face of it, let's suppose the average new TV might get only $500 in total, counting tax and installation.

There are 250 million televisions in the United States with a strong likelihood each of them would be replaced: do NOT let THEM fool you with estimates of how many will be replaced for such and so periods, we all know they will all eventually get a replacement, even, or especially, the ones in kids' rooms.

Some will tell you that not all of the televisions receive an analog signal, some already get digital, but the truth is the vast majority, well over 200 million, only get analog and the new broadcast signals won't work with them. www.cbronline.com/companyprofile

-

250 million new TVs at $500 each is $100 billion.

That's as much as it costs us to make war for an entire year, but we will be spending it on "Planned Obsolescence."

Don't believe there are over 200 million TVS in America?

250 million in 2006 www.projectorcentral.com/video_signals.htm www.stockandroll.com/ITV.htm

235 million in 1998 from the 2000 US Census US Bureau of the Census, 2000, p. 567 [98 million households, at 2.4 TVs per home]

59 million in 1970

42 million in 1958 [different times of year] 35 million in 1958 [Why? Fess Parker on Disney]

17 million in 1952

8 million by 1950

5 thousand in 1945

For you cable guys, here are their numbers:

67 million in 1998

4.5 million in 1970

93% of Americans watched over 50 hours of television per week in 1998 according to the Nielson ratings.

Newspapers continue their decline

55.9 million in 1998 62.1 million in 1970

45% of Americans got on the Internet per month in 1998 45% of Americans got their news from television in 1998 11% of Americans got their news from radio in 1998 US Census Bureau, 2000

57% if American college graduates get news from the radio

01/01/06 intro.me Also see “The Education Of Michael Hart”

An Introduction To Michael S. Hart

Much of me is obvious, at least to those who know me, but I have packed as much as I can into my ~60 years, “burning my candle at both ends with a blowtorch,” so it make take a little while to even cover the basics.

The most basic thing about me is that I wake up every day with the desire to make the world a better place.

Most of the entries here will be attached to an essay or article I have written, and I will try to post any relevant ones to my blog and give their filenames.

The top line in most of these is the date I started a piece and the filename. In the blog a .txt is added.

intro.me becomes intro.me.txt to keep browsers happy.

Most of these files have right hand justification put in as I write them, and would appear correctly in any program that honors hard returns and mono-spacing. I can’t guarantee how proportional spacing would look– it totally depends on your choice of font and size.

•

There are times when I don't know whether to start at the beginning or the end or with principal thoughts.

Today I feel it should be principal thoughts.

•

Even at the age of one I was aware of mathematics, as my mother was quite famous for teaching math teachers around the nation and the world. My earliest memory, related elsewhere, is demonstrating math skills to my godfather, Jim Siburg; I thought this was just before my second birthday, but he assures me it was probably nearly half a year earlier.

I didn't realize the mathematical relationship levers had at the time, but I did realize that leverage is a VERY powerful force, and that if I learned to use it, I could literally move mountains.

The mountain I chose to move was the mountain made up of ignorance and illiteracy.

"Break Down The Bars Of Ignorance And Illiteracy" was the first Mission Statement of Project Gutenberg, the central feature of my life and career. The second is "Encourage The Creation And Distribution Of eBooks."

•

I should also add that I am a very lucky person.

I can probably list dozens of lucky events that I can say there wouldn't be a Project Gutenberg without.

Anyone who does something as big as Project Gutenberg without acknowledging luck is not at all like me.

It would take too much time to list them all here.

I suppose I can't say that having great parents is in the category of luck, as they created me on purpose– but they should get more credit that anyone can give. I would have to give them a score of 98 or 99, and it would probably be unfair not to mention that I should not have been as strong without my brother.

In an even more direct manner, my brother is somewhat responsible for the creation of Project Gutenberg, as it was his college roommate who gave me

the account I used to make the very first step on the path in 1971, the path that became Project Gutenberg, on what later became the Internet.

I was just the right person at the right place at the right time with the right sense of leverage, combined with the right sense of idealism, and a background in both electronics and books.

People always ask me how I came up with the idea, and my response is always that it obviously couldn't have been as hard for me as it would have been for someone else, or I wouldn't have been able to do it.

I could do it because I grew up in a home full of the right combination of books and electronics, which was a very rare thing in the early 1950's, and with great respect for those books and electronics, which may be just as rare, even today.

[I should mention that my parents each had 3 careers, and met as codebreakers in WWII.]

My Dad was an English professor and hi-fi nut, and my Mom taught me math, literally on her knee, and a nice combination was just right for me to make the leap to combine Shakespeare and computers when the time came.

That's how Project Gutenberg began.

Why it continued was due to understanding of leverage and the willingness to keep cranking away at the huge lever of the Internet for 17 years before anyone gave me any responses, other than that I was crazy to want to put books into computers.

My luck also includes the help of department heads at major universities, professors, computer geeks and an incredibly wide assortment of some 40,000 persons who have volunteered to help with Project Gutenberg, with nothing to show for it other than the accomplishments of building the first eLibrary, and my thanks.

I should also mention a few friends who helped me get through some very rough times, and at least one who I can tell you has helped me nearly every single week– but none of them want the credit.

I have dedicated my life to bringing education and/or literacy to as many people as possible, trying to get a sort of "Neo-Industrial Revolution" started, to put the knowledge of the world in the hands of everyone.

There will be entire articles in this series about an assortment of people who

have tried to stop me, or at least to slow down the process.

Hopefully I will be able to provide a balanced report including equal portions of the positive and negative aspects of my career, and how the world views it.

Suggestions and comments always welcome.

Michael Stern Hart Internet User ~100 Founder Project Gutenberg

THE PROJECT GUTENBERG PHILOSOPHY

The Project Gutenberg Philosophy is that Everyone Should Have Everything

[at least as far as the public domain goes, see my other articles, essays, etc., on copyright for more about my thoughts on the public domain. For a nominal answer to those questions here, I will simply state that copyright was created solely for the purpose of stopping The Gutenberg Press from an eventual copying of everything in the world inexpensively enough for mass, and this was truly the first example of it, mass consumption. Beforehand, there was no way anyone but the extremes of the socio-economic scale could own a book, much less read it, but with The Gutenberg Press came the first example of Mass Production in the entire world, and some wonder why it was Johannes Gutenberg who was selected "Person of the Millennium" by Time. A closer look at the history of copyright shows that, from the United States perspective at least copyright has continually been used as a tool against any and all technologies that might allow the masses to have copies of the bulk of everything that has ever been written. Each time a new technology has come along, from the first high speed steam powered printing press, of 1830 stifled by the US Copyright Act of 1831, to the electric presses with their accompanying US Copyright Act of 1909 to stifle them, to the Xeroxes and their accompanying US Copyright Act of 1976 to the computer revolution and the Internet. . .and their accompanying US Copyright Act of 1998. The links between the first copyright law and the imperial publishing attitude of The Stationers, and the the links between the imperial publishing house of Disney and the most recent US Copyright Acts are clearly recorded in an ever growing number of history books, it takes a little more digging to do the same for the copyright acts of 1909 and 1831. . .but unless you are an entire believer in coincidence, you must acknowledge that revolutions were in place to once again bring books to the masses, and steps were taken for the purpose of stopping those revolutions, technological and street level, that would/could/should have changed the face of their times as much as an earlier invention of The Gutenberg Press revolutionized the world in point after point to the new points where The Church no longer had a monopoly on

religious works, where Martin Luther's 95 Theses were published so widely, and so quickly, that he could not be killed off without repercussions, too powerful for even The Church to withstand, to the Scientific Revolution in later years and thus to The Industrial Revolution. As mention above, this is only a glimpse of the WAR between copyright and the public domain and I strongly urge you to read more about it. However, that is not the topic– don't ever let people fool you into being defensive rather than offensive, when it comes to something like this. The philosophy of Project Gutenberg is protagonistic, not antagonistic. . .please don't forget that.]

Another part of The Project Gutenberg Philosphy is that money should be an entirely minimized factor to the point where it literally appears as if an entire absence of money is feasible in all parts of what we do. Volunteer labor is responsible for nearly 100% of Project Gutenberg, and this should stop nearly any effort to take over Project Gutenberg. If you don't think there have been such efforts, think again. . .but with Project Gutenberg a decentralized operation in the extreme, there is little anyone can do from any perspective short of amassing their own army of volunteers, to take it in any particular direction.

On of the things I am proudest of about Project Gutenberg is that we could be the first people to change the world in such a major manner without any financial backing, any educational backing, and political backing, or, any kind of backing at all. . .truly a grassroots operation in an era when the multinational megacorporations rule the world as surely as dinosaurs did a long long time ago.

These dinosaurs took decades to even recognize that eBooks existed or that they would/could/should make any difference. . .but their responses were a series of efforts to keep eBooks in the same archaic and arcane libraries, along with the other stores of knowledge, and thus away from the masses.

But the FACT is that eBooks are so unbelievably powerful that one person's efforts from a computer hidden away in a basement can still bring one book to free access by a billion people. . .something that never could happen a moment ago in the history of the entire planet.

"There is nothing more powerful than an idea whose time has come."

eBooks are so much an idea whose time has come that a Google search I made a year or so ago showed more hits for "ebook" "ebooks" "e-book" "e-books," than for "bomb" "bombs."

That is evidence aplently that eBooks are changing the world in a manner a world of megadinosaurs have not been able to stop.

Yes, in the United States they have passed additions copyright laws to say we cannot put millions of books on the Internet as eBooks, just in the few decades since Project Gutenberg began, and the rest of the world has a new set of laws trying to do the same thing to keep a million eBooks out of an electronic library that is already revolutionizing the world.

There are already a million free eBooks on the Internet, without relying a bit on the megacorporations such as Google, Yahoo, Amazon or governmental, such as The Library of Congress, The British Library, etc., or even on the educational megacorporations such as Oxford, Cambridge, Harvard, Stanford, and all the rest. . .still a million free eBooks created by the just plain folk like you and me, sitting at their personal computers creating what is likely to eventually be called “The Personal Library.”

“The Personal Computer Creates The Personal Library”

Why would anyone want their own personal library?

Of course the major reason is the same reason for physical libraries: the opportunity for the masses to have more access to more information.

In the case of personal libraries in personal computers are:

1.

Time

I live only two blocks from a very nice library, but the truth is that the number of times I physically go there is on the order of one time per year over quite a few years, even those times are often to their book sakes not to use the traditional library services. In fact, I can’t tell you a last time I used their traditional library services of books, serials, tapes or even the CD and DVDs that now comprise over half their circulation.

The fact is, even with my incredibly slow plain dailup connection, I get a quicker response to nearly everything I was without getting up from ye old computer here, and when I can’t, usually a phone call does the trick and I still don’t have to move, since there is a phone right here.

For those who do not live right next to a library as is true for most, and for those who have high speed Internet connections, which is true for most of the households in the United States, the advantages/disadvantages I was mentioning above are even stronger, as they would have to take much longer to physically get to the library, and back, and would have to take shorter times to get their results from the Internet.

Even more important than “Time Is Money” is “Time Is Life!”

However, before we leave this section let’s not forget that those services available at the library are not always just physical information accesses via the mediums listed above, but also that remarkable ability, knowledge, and just plain helpfulness of many of the librarians. . .some of whom were literally worth their weight in gold.

Many of the phone calls I mentioned above were to those librarians!

1.

Search Access

Perhaps this should be included in the “Time” section above, but I figured that the ability to search entire books or collections of books in seconds as opposed to days, weeks, months or years, is of such a value as to be in a section by itself.

There are simply things you can do with such searches that you could never have done without this ability. As I used to discuss with my father, very well regarded as a Shakespeare scholar, you could not have written a paper concerning all the mentions Shakespeare made of marriage before searches– it would just have been too massive a task to copy down all references to: marriage, marry, betrothed, betrothal, wed, wedded, wedding, husband, wife and all the other possibilities a thesaurus would yield.

It was hard enough once when my father once found a line in Shakespeare he thought he had read somewhere else, and after years of rereading, he found that the Bard had actually used the same line twice in different places.

Today, those years could be collapsed into less than a minute. . . .

1.

Republishing, Quoting, etc.

Obviously when The Gutenberg Press was invented, the first thing do do was to republish all the great books of all previous history and that was done to such an extent that more books were printed in the first fifty years or so of The Gutenberg Press than in all previous history of the world.

Equally obvious, with the advent of the Computer Revolution, was the quite equal opportunity to republish all the great books of all previous history so that billions of people could now have access to what had previously in

modern history been only available to millions.

Before The Gutenberg Press there were literally only thousands of people a country could call upon to read, and most of these were confined to nobles and The Church, and perhaps one person in each village who could be relied upon to read the posted edicts and advertisements from the upper class.

After The Gutenberg Press this number swelled to millions.

Before The Gutenberg Press the average person owned zero books.

Before Project Gutenberg the average person owned zero libraries.

1.

“Limited Distribution” Versus “Unlimited Distribution”

Today, right at this moment, there are over a billion persons out there on the Internet who can download any of a million free eBooks and nearly half a million from one single visit to and through http://worldebookfair.com

This is something that has never been possible before in the sense that in all previous history the ONLY thing everyone could have all they wanted of was. . . . . .air.

Today any one of those billion plus people could republish their own quite unique editions of the classics, something that was reserved for thousands not that long ago.

The idea of a billion publishers is anathema to those who believe[d] in an entirely “from the top down” distribution system.

For the entire history of the Earth, “Limited Distribution” has been quite literally the only force on which civilization has been based.

The philosophy of “Limited Distribution” dates all the way to the ameoeba.

“It’s better if *I* have it and YOU do NOT have it.”

That has been the basic philosophy of the world for all of our history.

Today, for the first time, there is something besides air that everyone is allowed to have as much as they want of. . .

eBooks!

Today the average computer sells for well under $500, and a used computer, literally almost free if they are much over one generation old.

Just a couple days ago I bought a very nice little computer that was $400, or so, just two years ago, for $25, and that probably wasn't the best deal I saw this summer, as I saw several computers a little older with features way beyond this one for about the same price. . .it all depends on what is your heart's desire when it comes to computers.

The truth is that nearly any computer on the shelf today can hold library, after library, after library in various eBook formats, and you still would have only used up one corner of the hard drive. But suppose you wanted an electronic library of even greater proportions?

You could add a terabyte to your under $500 computer for under $500!

Suppose your average book took up a megabyte of space.

A terabyte would hold a million such books. . .for $500!

And, by the time you filled it up, new terabytes would be much cheaper.

Conclusion

The Project Gutenberg Philosophy is that everyone should be a publisher or a library owner or both. . .or just have access whenever and wherever they wanted to entire libraries of materials, not just books.

In addition to being able to read all these books on the screen, or to put them down on paper, for those who still feel the need for paper, we should not forget that there are now "3-D printers" for personal computers and it costs no more to buy some of these today than to buy the full IBM-AT, back in 1984, not even counting for inflation, which even at only 3% would be a 120% factor since 1984, and inflation was running over 10% at the time.

The truth is that one of the major reasons copyright is such an issue now, is because THEY ARE SCARED TO DEATH that someone will invent the Star Trek replicator. . .and that everyone WILL be able to have everything.

So they are passing laws against it NOW!!!

When you can buy a printer that can print out a car or a pizza, will these all be illegal???

Don't forget:

The first copyright made The Gutenberg Press illegal.

The 1831 US Copyright Act made the 1830 patented high speed presses worthy of much less in terms of actual use by destroying 14 public domain years.

The 1909 US Copyright act made the high speed electric presses worth less, by destroying yet another 14 public domain years.

The 1976 US Copyright Act made the Xerox machine worth so much less by the extension of copyright to an average of 75 years, way beyond the 30 years, as was the average under 1909's US Copyright act.

And finally, one you can all remember:

The 1998 US Copyright Act removed yet another million books out of the old public domain expectancy, on top of the millions from 1976, etc., just for the purpose of keeping them away from the masses.

How do we know this?

Simple.

There are nearly 33 million books under copyright today.

There are only 2 million of these in print.

That means the copyright laws are 97% to keep books away from the masses– and only 3% to protect book sales.

90% of all copyrights were never renewed when it was a nominal fee, but it was so important to keep those books out of the hands of the masses that a law was passed eliminating that nominal fee and form to extend copyrights, and ALL copyrights, even the 97% not in use, were excluded from the masses and could not be included on the Internet public libraries.

The conclusion is that there are PROtagonists and ANTangonists.

Which do YOU want to be???

PS If you try to donate a book to Project Gutenberg and are troubled with some rules and regulations someone puts in front of you, don't worry, just send it to one of these three:

Michael S. Hart, Founder, Project Gutenberg hart@pglaf.org USA Phone: 217-344-6623

John Guagliardo, Founder, World eBook Libraryjohn@gutenberg.cc USA Phone: 808-292-2086

Prof. Greg Newby, CEO, Project Gutenberg gbnewby@pglaf.org USA Phone: 907-450-8663

and the likelihood is that one of us will get it posted for you. . .if not on Project Gutenberg, then probably we can get it on another site, as only real restrictions are for copyright permission or on vanity press books.

WHO INVENTED eBOOKS?

by Michael S. Hart

I certainly wasn't the first person to type anything into a computer, what I was was the first person to type something into a computer for the purpose of creating an electronic book that would become the step needed to start the creation of an electronic public library.

I have done an enormous amount of research to find eBooks, and never, ever, found one from before July 1, 1971 that was intended to be made publicly available as a general source of knowledge freely downloaded from the Internet.

In fact, for some 30+ years no one ever publicly doubted that I could have invented eBooks and/or eLibraries; pretty much only after Google had their huge multi-million dollar media blitz that made everyone in the world think they had just invented eBooks and eLibraries, back on December 14, 2004, did anyone seem to want to displace me as a father of the eBook/eLibrary movement.

Several candidates have been suggested.

The most of these was Doug Engelbart, inventor of the mouse, who made a computer with an online manual, probably announced around 1969, but only a few of these computers were ever sold, and at that time it was only available on the actual computers, not for free download. Since that time that manual has been placed on the Internet for downloading and retroactively given status as the first eBook by several people.

However, as much of a computer geek as I am, I don't think manuals of specific computer instructions count as a book of general interest or that including the manual in a few computers counts as publication in the same sense that publication dates for books are not listed for an entirely limited distribution of a few copies, but when a first major publication of so many

thousands of copies was first printed.

In addition, Doug Engelbart patented the mouse two years later, never patented or trademarked the concept of eBooks, which someone like him would have done had he thought of eBooks the way I did.

In fact, I did think of patenting and trademarking eBooks, but I will have to honestly say that I wanted to change the world more than I am interested in profiting from such a change, and this was true before, during, and after the entire Computer Revolution and .com boom.

The only reason I have at present for regretting that decision is the misuse of the word eBook by those who are too lazy to proofread those words and images of words they have scanned into their computers.

A picture of a book is not an eBooks, even an electronic picture.

An eBook has to be searchable, quotable, a source for new editions or republication of old editions, and be trivial to read, search, quote, and all those things via all common hardware/software combinations.

If I had trademarked the word eBook, I could insist on that, perhaps, just perhaps, making some kind of delineation between Google's scans, search files, and the kind of eBooks anyone can download and read for the rest of history.

What you get with these false eBooks are overly large files that have less usefulness than plain text or HTML files. However, I will first admit that some of these false eBooks are very pretty, but I am first thinking of the utilitarian aspect of invention such as The Gutenberg Press, how it changed the world from illiterate to literate, how this invention created a Scientific Revolution, The Industrial Revolution, and invented the entire concept of mass production.

Can you name any other invention that changed the world so much?

At least one other potential candidate for the first eBook came along and after years and years of searching I finally found a copy but the person who created this book asked me not to mention it, and I should keep my promise not to. All I can really say about it was that it is not the kind of book one would actually sit down and read in a format such as it was presented, it was meant for computers to read, not for human beings to read.

If you look around the Project Gutenberg eLibrary you will often have the opportunity to see references to the fact the Project Gutenberg's eBooks were

originally designed for BOTH people and computers to read with equal ease an utility.

There are also several large universities who blatantly tell you that they have the largest and oldest eLibraries in the world, but none in the world will actually say they started before July 4, 1971 and none have 100,000+ eBooks you can download any time you want, much less to put on your own sites, use to create your own editions, etc. etc.

The truth is that virtually all of the other eBook enterprises should be considered as part of the world of "Limited Distribution" while it should be considered that Project Gutenberg was the very first of the new breed of enterprises based on "Unlimited Distribution."

The idea/ideal of Project Gutenberg was the first understanding of an Internet possibility of creating something that everyone could have– for all the rest of history–like what came out of the fictional Star Trek replicator.

Anyone could type in a book, anywhere, and send it Project Gutenberg, and it becomes available to over a billion Internet users overnight– and each of them can pass it on to whomever they like as long as none of them are charged more than for a disk containing the eBooks.

This is the virtue of "Unlimited Distribution" and it has been a main hallmark of Project Gutenberg from the very beginning.

What most of the "Limited Distribution" enterprises do is try to make you come to them every time you want to use a book.

They put ads on their sites and get paid every time you visit.

Project Gutenberg has never put ads on their sites and encourages YOU to create your own "Personal Library" on your own "Personal Computer" so you can have access to a million eBooks any time you want, not any time someone else lets you in. . .we think you should have eLibraries all the time, even when your Internet gateway is down, even when they have closed their sites for maintenance, or longer.

If you do a search for any Project Gutenberg eBooks you are likely to find more copies in your search results than you could ever want, but the point is that even when huge portions of the Internet were down a while back due to electrical blackouts, you could still find a number of sources for Project Gutenberg eBooks when it was difficult for any eBooks to be found at other sites.

Project Gutenberg eBooks are a permanent part of the Internet and the eBooks have been all along.

eBooks come and go from other eBook sites, other eBooks sites come or go from time to time, but Project Gutenberg has always been there.

The big reason is Project Gutenberg is for the benefit of everyone in the world equally, not more for anyone than anyone else, me included. You probably would shudder at the thought of trading incomes with me, as most of my years with Project Gutenberg have been volunteered, and I rarely get paid, only our accountants get paid regularly.

Project Gutenberg can't really be shut down for lack of money, as the money has never been there to begin with, and thus Project Gutenberg, such as it is, has been the most permanent fixture on the Internet in all the time since it first went coast to coast in the U.S.

In all that time Project Gutenberg has never received a major grant.

Google and Yahoo will tell you they are scanning 500 - 1,000 books in a single day, and if that were at all true for the 22 month Google is now approaching, some 700 days, Google should have some 700,000 books in their The Google Print Library/Google Book Search program, but the total looks more like 100,000, and I'm not sure you can download half of that total, or even read half. Yahoo says 500 per day and only in period of perhaps 11 months, which would be 150,000+ eBooks, but this would also be extremely hard to find in real life. . .estimates range more around 10,000 - 15,000 than 100,000 - 150,000.

However, you can visit the following Project Gutenberg sites any day, and find a total of over 100,000 eBooks free for the taking, and they are all books you can repost on your own site without asking, as long as no fees are charged for membership or downloading.

As of about October 1, 2006:

21,500 eBooks at http://www.gutenberg.org ~50 languages 100,000 eBooks at http://www.gutenberg.cc ~100 languages 1,290 eBooks at http://gutenberg.net.au PG of Australia 350 eBooks at http://pge.rastko.net ~65 languages via Project Gutenberg of Europe 376 eBooks at http://preprints.readingroo.ms/ These are eBooks not quite ready for prime time.

In addition, Project Gutenberg sponsors The World eBook Fair which is giving away 400,000 - 500,000 eBooks as of this writing.

http://worldebookfair.com

educate.mem

EDUCATE MEM 7956 1-22-03 9:10a

My early education was spectacular, because my parents taught me so much, although they refused to teach me to read, even going so far as to forbid me to learn to read on my own, for fear of my being so well educated when I got to school that I would irritate the teachers; something I could not understand at the time. Somehow, in my continuing naivete, through great numbers of years, nay decades, I always thought a teacher should/would be welcoming highly advanced students in the same manner a sports coach will welcome a highly advanced athlete. Hey, I SAID I was naive, but. . .I am forced to admit that I still think this is the way it should be.

Not sure I should include the next paragraph here, or even elsewhere. If schools recruited for academic performance the way they recruit for an athletic performance, things would be much different. As it was Deans at the University of Illinois thought I made the university look BAD because I was doing so well, rather than making them look GOOD. They even tried, and failed, to stop me from graduating in two years.

So, while I learned HUGE amounts about all sorts of things, from cultures throughout the expanses of world history and learned all fundamentals for the sciences and mathematics at a VERY young age: literally before I can remember, and I can remember knowing arithmetic up to the decillions when I was one [see my godfather: Jim Siberg]. I didn't actually learn a lot in school, not just because I had learned so much at home, but because it was not the model in our schools at the time to teach very much. It must be said it was mostly a socialization process, one that continued all the way through college, as I will mention later on.

School in the US was mainly created to mesh the immigrants from different places, with different languages and customs. In those deepwater seaport cities such as Tacoma, with such a wide variety of immigrants, this is an important, nay primary, feature of the departments of education, as it is and was in many placed throughout the US. The purpose was to rub off all the differences, and homogenize the new generation, and thus I was not at all encouraged to be "different" other than to excel at sports, but not a bit in scholarship or the arts. Oh, they SAID that good grades were nice . . .but that was about it, there was no push for excellence.

Until Sputnik, that is. . . .

In October 1957, on the 40th anniversary of the “October Revolution,” the Russians [USSR] launched the first satellite to orbit the Earth, and “The Space Race” began. . .only 40 years, from a revolution that was basically fought on foot and horseback in 1917 to starting space exploration.

This was much more shocking at the time than you might think, following a quick progression from the A-Bomb to the H-Bomb for both the US & USSR in only the previous decade.

[Footnote: it would now appear that Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were very far from access to the H-Bomb [then called “The Super-Bomb”] infomration, and did not have access to the information they were convicted, executed, and publicly vilified for supposedly having given the Russians. Media is not saying much about this, as it is still considered “bad form” to say a gevernment convicted the wrong person, as IS much in the media right now, as per legislation in North Carolina to free those wrongly conviced. One example, sorry I missed the name, as of a man convicted of rape, 20 years ago, but who may have been proven innocent about half that time ago. The media are heaviliy involved with both sides, some wanting no convictions, none at all, to be overturned, some wanting justice, no matter the delay. I find it interesting that no one ever speaks out against justice delays when it takes 20 years to catch someone, but that the do when the person was caught and convicted 20 years ago.] [Should I move this to the end?]

The US school systems BURST into action to created a generation that must be prepared to catch up, nay surpass, the Russian threat.

Finally, the US educational system had something to fear more than bright students. . . .

This is a premise some, even many, of you may find hard to accept, *I* am only just now learning to accept it, even after people telling me for all of thirty years and longer. . .teachers, scholars and administrators were and still are deathly afraid of bright students who don’t fit into cookie cutter molds that were used to create a school system whose primary focus was the homongenization of the student population.

I had to be told by large groups of people on the threshhold of PhDs in a quite psychology department. . .over and over. . .for weeks on end, month after month, before I finally even considered the idea. . .and still that idea kept escaping me. . .it was just not in my mental model of the world that professors in famous colleges could be frightened by a student. . .. Perhaps more about that some other time. Much of the time I was labelled as not as bright as I thought I was. . .and at the same time was labelled as a classic

underachiever. Hee hee! Luckily *I* knew who I was and was not about to accept anyone else's label of who I was. Later. . . . L8r.

Shift now to the beginning of the first post Sputnik school year in 1958.

I'm not going to pull any punches here, I am going to include things that I could have left out, things that may allow you an escape from the truth of the situation. . .and many of you may use just such escapes.

First, I was in a different school system, 2,000 miles further east: BIG differences being noticed between East and West. . .and these people were Easterners to me: even though they called themselves Midwesterners. The place was nearly 200 miles east of the Mississippi and I'd never been out of Tacoma more by more than 300 miles except for a couple trips to Canada which even included one trip on my own, when I stayed for three weeks, at the age of 8. The world WAS different back then.

Before I ever even got to class on that first day I was literally grabbed and dragged by the collar to the office, to be summarily thrown out! Had I done anything to deserve this? I had only asked for directions to find my classroom. I was told in no uncertain terms that I would be sent home . . .several times, before I could finally get them to tell me why.

I was wearing "bluejeans!"

"The Horror. . .The Horror. . .The Horror" [Apocalypse Now!]

[There is a separate memoir called bluejean.mem about all the details.]

[I have been asked to include more of the details here, now expanded.]

So, we'll skip most of that, other than to say that my Levi's, and *I* am speaking of genuine Levi's, were NOT blue, but were wheat and I *refused* to go home, threatening to call the police and sue them all if I they did not leave me alone and let me go to class. ["Wheat jeans" = "chinos."] [These were a West Coast thing, and like my Frisbee, had never been seen]

So, even while *I* didn't yet realize I was not the average everyday kid, THEY probably realized it.

Instead of just going home and putting on slacks, I, who had never heard, in my 11 years, of any kind of "dress code," demanded to see it, written, before I would blindly obey. . .I just wasn't brought up to blindly obey anyone, particularly a stranger, no matter how authoritarian.

The dress code was written down, but it said “bluejeans,” not jeans, and I told them that I wasn’t wearing ANY blue and that I already knew where the courthouse and police station were, and that I would go straight for them if they didn’t let me get to class ontime.

/

I didn’t realize how important this evet was until the third revision of this document, when I realized that I probably would NOT have gotten the special classes mentioned below if they had not already put me in a mood to threaten going to court beforehand.

/

At any rate, back to the Sputnik train/rocket of thought, later that day, the University of Illinois sent over one of their most promising graduate students, as part of the beginning of recruitment of my generation as the weapon to counter the Red Threat. This took the form of the person doing a 10 minute announcement in each class, looking for “best and brightest,” as the movement began to be known, with particular emphasis on science or math interests, and, luckily for me, also asking for volunteers.

“Lucky for me?”

Why?

Because, without even realizing it, I had just run headlong into “fear of the unknown”. . .”not invented here”. . .and all that jazz. . . .

My teacher, close as we became later [I was also her paperboy] was afraid of letting me into the “special section” simply because I was an unknown.

I tried and tried to get her to put me on the list, and when she wouldn’t I finally had to forcibly remind her, in front of the class, that we were being also asked to volunteer, not just those teachers recommended, and I threatened to take her to court if she blocked my admission.

Once again, I had to read back what was actually said to get in.

Remember, first thing that day, I had had to read the dress code. . .must say I had never even HEARD of a dress code before. . .things just weren’t like that on the West Coast. . .not much in the way of repression, least, INSTITUTIONALIZED REPRESSION. . .I actually had to threaten to go back to the office. . .again. . .to invoke the “volunteer” category as read to us by the graduate student. . .and also to go to court. I reminded them the fact was that

I only knew where the courthouse and police station were as part of my Boy Scout orientation, but apprently they didn't think highly, as least as highly as where I came from, of the whold Boy Scout thing.

I should probably add that while I went through the whole Boy Scout thing from Cub Scounts to Explorers, from Bobcat to Eagle Scout, and was even a counselor at the second largest Boy Scout camp in the United States, that I was/am a revolutionary, something I reminded my Eagle Scout Board, when I told them I was revolutionary, and that they might not want me, as I am not the standard cookie cutter Eagle Scout. I was rather surprised, 1964 was not at time being revolutionary was popular with the system.

Back to my first day at school, after my second threat of court action.

And yet I felt no hostility about either case. . .this behavior was soooo outside my experience that I had no way of knowing what it was. . .yet.

There's yet another couple stories that end up with me threatening office personnel, even a vice-principal, with calling the cops and suing them if they didn't obey their own rules. . . .

I wasn't a renegade or a juvenile delinquent, heck I was on my way to get my Eagle Scout award, and much more. . .but I was soo far OUTSIDE THE BOX that they couldn't see me. . .and I couldn't see them. . . .

So, when it comes down to it, without the experiences of that first day– and being threatened with being thrown out of school for the jeans–maybe I would never have made it in time to catch the wave I surfed all the way through from grade school, to junior high school, and through the kind of college programs that allowed me to think up Project Gutenberg.

Some extra notes that didn't fit in well in the above

I was truly a child of the Atomic Age, so much so that when my mother said, "Up and at 'em!" in the mornings, I thought she was saying, "Up and Atom!"

Because atom/atomic was synonymous with high energy back in those days….

Being a kid with LOTS of energy wasn't regarded as a bad thing back then.

^***.* HISTORY OF PROJECT GUTENBERG

by Michael S. Hart, Founder

This history is the result of several requests and suggestions from friends,

colleagues, media personalities, etc. on the eve of the 35th anniversary of Project Gutenberg which takes place a few days from now on July 4, 2006.

From my own perspective, I prefer to concentrate on the future as that is where even larger changes will take place, and ever on the present, as that is when the changes DO take place, but I realize that there is a place for such a history, and now in my 60th summer, having just completed my 60th spring, and part of my 60th winter, I fully realize that I have been here now a lot longer than I will be in the future, and would have to get to the age of 95 to even last as long in the future as Project Gutenberg has lasted in the past. Thus this history.

A General Overview

Table of Contents

The Project Gutenberg Timeline

My Own Expectations

The Five Information Ages and The Five Copyright Laws Passed To Stifle Them

Money

•

The Project Gutenberg Timeline

The high points are easy to map out:

The U.S. Declaration of Independence

The first eBook done burning the midnight oil July 4, 1971.

The History of Democracy Series [These works were displayed on the walls of countless schools and malls around the country during the 1970's]

One added each year of the 1970's with help from an anonymous set of volunteers that even *I* could never identify, persons who just seemed to know there was a need, and the work popped up on various local computers.

The Bible

Our 10th eBook was the again provided by anonymous volunteers as much of the Project Gutenberg library has been. The Bible accounted for all of our

successful work in the 1980's except for the preliminary editions of Alice in Wonderland. We were working on a Complete Shakespeare, but the copyright laws had been changed with so little publicity that we didn't find out about it for years, and thus a huge amount of labor was lost.

No Direct Positive Feedback for the First 17 Years

The total lack of interest by the world at large other than a lot of this anonymous help for the first 17 years.

The Complete Works of Shakespeare

The 100th eBook again done burning the midnight oil; December 10, 1993, on the 4th anniversary of my Dad's death: and done with the aid of a handful of volunteers around the world so I could honor my father by completing the book in his honor.

Also a debt of gratitude to The World Library who allowed the use of their copyrighted edition as source material.

[Please note: technically speaking the days of completion of the books done in all nighters would be the following day; in the case of honoring my father, the person who completed that last piece of Shakespeare was in Hawaii so it was technically still December 10th, but obviously given the lengthy times it took for file assembly and file transfer in those days it was obviously December 11th before anyone had the file.]

Dante's Divine Comedy

Our 1,000th book, released in both the original Italian and a few English translations in August, 1997. For some time book titles in other languages were intentionally features in book numbers of multiples of 500 and 1,000 to encourage a language expansion so Project Gutenberg could provide books to a wider and wider portion of the world population.

These included Don Quixote in Spanish as #2,000 Siddhartha in German as #2,500 A L'Ombre Des Jeunes Filles en Fleurs, by Proust as #3,000 The Entire French Immortals Series as #4,000 The Notebooks of Leonardo Da Vinci as #5,000 Ironia Pozorow, by Maciej hr. Lubienski in Polish as #6,000 The Kalevala, The Finnish National Epic, was #7,000 We went a bit further with #8,000 to do in Africa's honor, The Slave Trade, Domestic And Foreign, Why It Exists, And How It May Be Extinguished The Story Of Vishnu, in Sanskrit, was #9,000

And then back to our roots of The History of Democracy for The Magna

Carta, for our 10,000th eBook, in Latin.

As I write this particular paragraph of this history, it is a month, to the day, until the 35th anniversary of placing that first eBook online that was the first step in the encouraging of the creation and distribution of eBooks that was to become the hallmark of Project Gutenberg in our mission statements:

“Encourage the Creation and Distribution of eBooks”

“Help Break Down the Bars of Ignorance and Illiteracy”

“Give As Many eBooks to As Many People As Possible”

At this time it still has not been officially decided what is going to be the 20,000th Project Gutenberg eBook, hopefully a book that we will complete and have online by July 4, 2006.

•

Note on the numbering and dating of Project Gutenberg eBooks:

During parts of Project Gutenberg’s history, I would schedule all the books to be done in the following year, creating some index files in which to enter the titles and authors, etc. A huge surge in our production rate in the earlier days of this led to several years in which we were ahead of that schedule, and you will find books with actual release dates ahead of an official release date that was planned well in advance. This practice ended with the achievement of our 10,000th eBook.

However, you should also be well advised that the eBooks from Project Gutenberg of Australia, Project Gutenberg of Europe– independent organizations–each have their own number systems and thus when we add their nearly 1,000 eBooks to the totals, you will find that the 20,000 grand total only includes about 19,000 in the original numbering system. We included the new Project Gutenberg PrePrints section in the grand 2006 totals, and those are counted internally, but only received the final catalogue numbers when they are no longer PrePrints, at least that’s the way it is right now. Given the numbers of changes to our cataloguing systems over the years, I wouldn’t want to bet that things won’t change again, and for the better.

In addition, I should mention The Project Gutenberg Consortia Center, a collection of collections donated by various others in eBook production around the world. This site has 75,000+, which will yield an overall grand total of ~100,000 eBooks on July 4, 2006.

[My apologies, but John Guagliardo, who runs Consortia Center sites for us, insists on being very conservative in estimates of how many eBooks are at http://gutenberg.cc and he will not let me state for the record the exact number.]

•

I should also mention The World eBook Fair, co-sponsored by a combination of Project Gutenberg, The World eBook Library and several other eBook publishers you will be able to find via a sponsor's link on the main page at http://worldebookfair.com

The world eBook Fair is an effort to present one month a year of completely free access to all the eBooks we can manage.

These eBooks are coming from at least 100 collections, around the world, on the following schedule:

1/3 million eBooks in 2006 1/2 million eBooks in 2007 3/4 million eBooks in 2008 ONE million eBooks in 2009

and we hope to make that level of progress with or without an eBook project continuing from Google, Yahoo or The Library of Congress though we would certainly encourage them to continue to redouble their efforts year after year.

However, in all honesty, I must point out that it will take a lot more than doubling every year or every 18 months:

Let us presume that Google manages to reach 100,000 scans, on their public servers, by June 14, 2006, 18 months after their big billion dollar multimedia publicity blitz of December 14, 2004, to reach 1% of their stated goal of 10 million eBooks.

As per Moore's Law, that would yield the following table:

```
    Moore's Law Growth / Google
```

eBook Totals Dates Doublings Years

```
     00  Dec 14, 2004   0    0
 50,000  Jun 14, 2006   1   1.5
100,000  Dec 14, 2007   2    3
200,000  Jun 14, 2009   3   4.5
400,000  Dec 14, 2010   4    6
800,000  Jun 14, 2012   5   7.5
```

1,600,000 Dec 14, 2013 6 9 3,200,000 Jun 14, 2015 7 10.5 6,400,000 Dec

14, 2016 8 12 12,800,000 Jun 14, 2018 9 13.5

Or, if they doubled every year, instead of every 1 1/2 years:

```
   Moore's Law Growth / Google

  Totals  Dates  Doublings Years

    00  Dec 14, 2004   0    0
50,000  Dec 14, 2005   1    1
```

100,000 Dec 14, 2006 2 2 200,000 Dec 14, 2007 3 3 400,000 Dec 14, 2018 4 4 800,000 Dec 14, 2019 5 5 1,600,000 Dec 14, 2010 6 6 3,200,000 Dec 14, 2011 7 7 6,400,000 Dec 14, 2012 8 8 12,800,000 Dec 14, 2013 9 9

However, some people, even those who say that Moore's Law was never meant to apply to human powered project, say that their progress will actually multiply by 10 instead of 2 in Moore's Law periods, as follows for their 6 year plan:

10x Moore's Law Growth

eBook Totals Dates

```
     00  Dec 14, 2004
100,000  Jun 14, 2006
```

1,000,000 Dec 14, 2007 10,000,000 Jun 14, 2009

leaving 6 months to spare for 10 years to December 14, 2010.

I'm sure that Google, with over $100 billion, aligned with a cadre of multibillion dollar libraries such as, The New York Public Library, Oxford, Harvard, Stanford and Michigan would certainly be able to scan 10 million books in that period if they really wanted to.

However, given their track record for their first 18 months, I worry that they are not taking this project seriously, and are giving short shrift to what could actually give truth to their public statement of December 14, 2004:

"This is the day the world changes."

I should also add that there are many people who are pleased to a much greater degree with their progress than I am and a similar number of people who seem to be less pleased.

Given my own 35 year history of making eBooks I can only say that I had

both hoped and expected better results.

Yes, I admit it, my hopes and expectations are high.

My Own Hopes and Expectations

My own ideal of eBooks is what you would get if you sat down at your computer and typed in a few pages every day, week by week, until you finished the book, then proofread it several times to get it to 99.9% level of accuracy and then sent the book off to a few of your friends to proofread with eyes not your own to find the errors you missed more than once.

This should result in an eBook that exceeds the standard set by The Library of Congress for eBooks in the 1990's.

Obviously there was no other way to create eBooks in 1971 as when the whole process of creating eBooks readable by humans and computers began because there were no automated tools in place to assist us as we have today.

Personally, I think it is now time to increase the standards to perhaps 99.97% or 99.99%, not a big change, and certainly within the realms of reality.

Given these expectations that I harbored for several decades before eBooks finally struck the fancy of others, you might, just possibly, be able to understand my reaction to Google's announcement of December 14, 2004.

I was elated!

Here, finally, was going to come the $100 billion dollar new enterprise that would be able to finish what we had started!

Obviously Google was going to create an online library where anyone in the world could read any of 10 million books, from some of the greatest library collections in the world.

However, it didn't work out that way.

It didn't work out that way several times over.

1. We never got any public announcement of books being done, catalogues made available, or anything else of the like, so a person who wanted to see what Google was doing had nothing in the way of the same kind of opportunity as with a "bricks and mortar library."

2. The books we did manage to find were not available for an easy download to our own systems. In fact, upon examination, it appeared

that Google had actually taken actions to PREVENT people from downloading the books.

3. It turned out that Google Print Library books were not in one single computer file, but that the text you search was in one file, while the pages you actually could read were in one or more other files, often one file per page, and with a kind of invisible file overlaying them, so that if you downloaded, or tried to download, the page, you got a blank file.

4. The text you could search was available only in “snippet” form. . .literally a couple lines of a book were all you got, and then when you wanted to look at the book, you were sent a whole different route to different files containing images of the words you had just seen in plain computer text, words you could previously have cut and pasted into your own computer– but now which were in a non-portable format.

[Note: it turns out that many of the names used are misnomer after misnomer. . .Google’s Print Library could not print and was not a library. . .Adobe’s “Portable File Documents” would turn out not to be very portable at all, but certainly moreso that a graphical representation in .gif or .jpg format, etc.]

So, my “Great Expectations” of an eBook library that could be written on a single DVD and snailmailed for one stamp via the first class mail system [or even less at book rate], were not coming true via The Google Print Library as announced in that December 14, 2004 media blitz, nor from the renamed version: Google Book Search which was immediately relabeled by Google

“Google Book Search is a means for helping users discover books, not to read them online and/or download them.”

Thus we had both the reality that Google was not providing an electronic library the like of which they described via their billion dollar publicity campaign, nor now was defined in the official words quoted above.

I won’t go into detail here about the authors and publishers, who took Google to court for concentrating on the copyrighted materials instead of public domain materials, or how Google’s books have changed even more, as per public pressure, to keep at least one foot in the door of eBooks as I envisioned them, other than to say that I continue to hope Google, Yahoo, etc. will finally come to the point of realizing that publicity of the kind the received from their early efforts might be a lot less than the kind they would receive if they actually set an electronic library free to be downloaded with their blessing.

Yes I understand the Masters of Business Administration logic of wanting to force everyone to come to Google every time the need arises to look something up in one of these books, and a certain amount of advertising revenue is generated whenever a “hit” takes place. . .that’s lots of money.

But I also understand that the just plain “good will” that is generated by giving these books away is even greater.

Just as Project Gutenberg once got credit for giving away ALL of the eBooks in the world [we constantly received the errors or all the other publishers], Google could easily have made a similar impact, by outproducing Project Gutenberg, many times over, and getting credit from the masses for all eBooks, even without making any statements to that effect.

It could literally have been on the order of Carnegie library efforts that were so big exactly 100 years ago today. For an awfully long time, millions of people thought that Carnegie’s public library program had built every public library.

THAT is the way promote books and libraries, not lock them up in ways that prevent people from having access.

By the way, Google wasn’t the first to make this mistake.

eBooks for the Elite. . .or for Humanity at Large?

Oxford made the same mistake with The Oxford Text Archive, in which they attempted to collect all the world’s eBooks in one collection that was as exclusive as possible, and to claim it as free to anyone who wanted to archive their eBooks there.

However even for something as freely available as Gutenberg’s Alice in Wonderland they charged $45 and limited distribution to 9-track reel to reel computer tape, just to keep the books out of the hands of the riffraff.

In the end they were so exclusive that they priced themselves right out of the eBook marketplace, when they should have had the whole thing to themselves, if they hadn’t been so greedy.

“Those who do not study history, are condemned to repeat it.”

The Oxford Text Archive wanted to be something the common man or woman could not and would not use, they got their wish.

This is what happens when you try to be too elitist.

My own Project Gutenberg efforts are just the opposite with a priority to bring books and literacy to the masses just as in the days of Johannes Gutenberg's press, when numbers of books owned by the average person rose above 0 for the first time– my goal is to raise the number of libraries owned by the same average person above 0 for the first time.

The average public library has about 30,000 books.

We are currently building a single-sided, single-layered DVD, and right now it has 20,000 books on it, and is only 2/3 full of books, so the final edition should have as many books as a modern public library has.

These common single-sided, single-layered DVDs were available for just 17 cents the last time I bought them in a store, and together with a book rate stamp for each one would mean I can mail 100 of these to separate 100 addresses for $50. However I should add that if you use heavier envelopes, the weight is going to go over one ounce, and the stamps will cost more.

In a few years I predict there will be any number of DVDs out there containing 30,000 eBooks, and even more as the standard becomes dual-sided and dual-layered DVDs that can hold eBooks at four times the number of pages.

Can you imagine a single DVD containing 100,000 eBooks?!?!?!?

And mailing these to anyone you know for just 50 cents?

•

That's the kind of thing *I* had in mind when I started doing eBooks, and it is possible right now, though the dual-layered dual-sided DVDs are more expensive right now per side, so the prediction I am making is still for a few years from now.

However, right now blank DVDs are about the same price as CDs and that will eventually happen with the dual-sided & layered DVDs as well, particularly when the new higher density DVD is in the major marketplaces.

Then DVDs containing 100,000 eBooks will indeed be common.

•

There you have my general overview of "The History of Project Gutenberg," and I will fill in more details as time goes on a little more complete with some perspective on why the initial items produced were so small by

comparison as most readers of this are probably unaware of just how limited computer drives and bandwidth were, back in the 1970's, and also some mention of why our first effort into very large books like a Complete Works of Shakespeare were counteracted by the voiding of that copyright law we had started out with, and replacement of the law with a new law that eliminated one million books from the total we could use in Project Gutenberg.

Obviously my own view of putting entire libraries in the hand of anyone who wants them has been countermanded by legalistic corporate lobbying as well as the machinations of elitists of the nature of Oxford, Harvard, Stanford, etc.

My own goal is bring all this to the masses, and research for just a few minutes will tell you of centuries of efforts by a cartel of publishers starting with The Stationers Guild later known as The Stationers Company, all the way to their modern- day heirs, The World Intellectual Property Organization.

I close this introduction with a comparison of the first four Information Ages to the current Information Age of today.

For those who want this is more detail, please see my blog at

http://pglaf.org/hart

where one of the main essays is on The Five Information Ages.

The Five Information Ages

and

The Five Copyright Laws Passed To Stifle Them

Obviously Project Gutenberg is named after the inventor of an elementary fundamental building block of Information Ages for all time, Herr Johannes Gutenberg, inventor of moveable type, the foundation of both the printing revolution, and the later Scientific Revolution, and thus The Industrial Revolution.

However, what most of you probably didn't know before Project Gutenberg essays on the subject, is that the first copyrights were created simply to stop The Gutenberg Press and to renew, or restore, the monopoly such scribes and stationers had had, all the way back to time immemorial.

For those of us in the United States the political process of counteracting

technological breakthroughs via manipulation of copyright laws might be much more obvious.

In 1830, the first high speed steam printing press patent was issued right alongside an expiration of the 1st United States copyright ever issued starting back around 1790.

For those who had enjoyed a monopoly of publications in early days of the United States, this was totally unacceptable, and a huge effort was mounted to change the copyright laws before any new publishers could buy these new printing presses in an effort to create inexpensive reprints of these books.

Thus the rights of the public to the public domain were dead, for a second time, stifling the effects of the steam presses, just as thoroughly as the first United Kingdom copyrights had reduced the number of titles available from 6,000 to 600 back when The Stationers Company first outlawed all such Gutenberg presses that were outside their purview.

The U.S. Civil War interrupted this process or it might be in continuation as the 1830 Copyright Act allowed the copyrights to eventually expire, but with the advent of electric presses at the turn of the century, the legalistic maneuverings would be revived and the 1909 copyright act served the same purpose a third time, yet again stopping an impending revolution in a world of inexpensive republishing of public domain works.

The Xerox machine received the same treatment in 1976 and the Internet was responded to via the 1998 U.S. Copyright Act.

In just the 89 years from 1909 to 1998 the U.S. Copyright Act was amended again and again and again to kill off revolutions in publishing from electric presses, Xerox machines, and then finally the Internet as copyrights were extended from average periods of about 30 years in 1900 to 95 years in 2000.

The odds of living long enough to legally copy anything later in life that you had seen originally published in childhoods, virtually dropped to 0% for children today from expectation a child could legitimately and legally have a century ago.

In plain terms, even without any further copyright extension, the average child born today, even in the countries with high life expectancies, will never live long enough to republish a single example of anything published in their lifetime.

We are now legally cut off from republishing the culture your life included

being published from birth to death. . .it will all be in the hands of Big Brother.

•

Money

At least one of my most vocal critics has tried to convince a number of people that I do eBooks for the money and that I am manipulating the Project Gutenberg volunteers for a profit.

Of course, that very same person has publicly said that money should be the top priority of Project Gutenberg.

At the current time I have not received a PGLAF paycheck from my services to Project Gutenberg for over three years.

This selfsame critic has also criticized John Guagliardo, who has run the Project Gutenberg Consortia Center on his own, in terms of both his own time and his own money for years.

I am not sure the total amount of money either of us has made for our years of labor would equal a median nation income for the same period. . .but. . .if either John or I ever do get a fortune in return for our work, I think we will deserve it.

On the same note, I should add that receiving just a penny in return for every eBook given away would generate enough money to buy out Donald Trump.

The world population is coming up on 2/3 of 10 billion. 1.5% of that total is 100 million people. Thus if the average one of the Project Gutenberg eBooks reaches 1.5% worldwide, there would be a total of 2 trillion copies given away just of that 20,000 eBooks that Project Gutenberg has published.

2 trillion pennies is 20 billion dollars.

If we add in all the eBooks Project Gutenberg has republished from other eBook publishers, we approach 100,000 eBooks and a total of 10 trillion eBooks given away if the average one may get to 1.5% of the population.

10 trillion pennies is 100 billion dollars.

And this is only counting up to July 4, 2006, and again only counting the eBooks Project Gutenberg made or republished.

If we count the 1/3 million World eBook Fair books presented on July 4,

2006, and if those reach just 1.5% percent of the world population, that would be 33.3 trillion copies.

33.3 trillion pennies is 1/3 trillion dollars.

And that is just for the First World eBook Fair, just wait a bit for the next three to take place and those figures above will translate to:

1/3 million eBooks in 2006 yields 1/3 trillion dollars 1/2 million eBooks in 2007 yields 1/2 trillion dollars 3/4 million eBooks in 2008 yields 3/4 trillion dollars ONE million eBooks in 2009 yields ONE TRILLION DOLLARS

just valuing each copy at one penny and reaching just a 1.5% portion of the world population with the average eBook.

-

However, I have tried to keep money out of the equation with respect to the reality of Project Gutenberg, as it is a very important issue to prove that eBooks can be created en masse without any real financial support. This keeps eBooks in an entirely free realm, from start to finish, without any needs for multibillion dollar corporations such as Google, Yahoo!, or even governments; though it would certainly be nice if an assortment of these, or of schools, actually acted on vision statements that SAID that they are interested in the general welfare of the population as a whole.

A Few More Comments On Money

While on the topic on money, I should mention that our money isn't really based on anything much more sophisticated in an overall point of view than that monetary system of Indians a Dutch man gave "$24 worth of beads and trinkets" in exchange for Manhattan Island.

Our own "beads and trinkets" consist of gold and silver from the old days, along with platinum and iridium, etc., from an assortment of newer items on the list.

Let's face it, any spacefaring ship that landed here is more than likely to have come across some number of gold, silver, platinum and iridium asteroids in their travels and would be thus able to buy anything they wanted from us in exchange of a few "beads and trinkets" they picked up along the way.

It is fairly common knowledge that all of the heavy elements including even the iron in our blood, were created in novas, the explosions of stars billions of miles away.

I should add that some of the iron is actually made in stars before they reach the nova stage, and thus probably we could find examples of some heavier elements in very dense stars.

But the fact is that we still value shiny objects such as an assortment of precious metals and precious stones, still the basic “beads and trinkets” of primitive money.

•

^***.* History Project Gutenberg

The First Step to eLibraries, July 4, 1971

To put it simply: I was the right person in the right place at the right time with the right friends.

There was a LOT of luck involved in making Project Gutenberg and I would warn you to be quite suspicious of anyone who is claiming to have started such a project without lots of luck being a major factor.

I grew up in a house full of books and electronics: luck.

My brother’s best friend was a computer operator: luck.

MY best friend was an operator on the same one: more luck.

This was one of the first computers on the Internet: luck.

I just happened to be there when it happened: more luck.

I already knew how to run a TeleType machine: more luck.

I figured out how to run the computer by hanging around.

They gave me my own computer account July 4, 1971: luck.

A copy of The Declaration of Independence in my bag: luck!

When I wondered what I could do to repay the $100 million in my new computer account I stopped to eat while I thought and thought about what I should do with all that computer power, and when I opened my bookbag and shook out my munchies I saw the copy of The Declaration of Independence tossed in by the grocery bagger at the store: luck!

The proverbial light bulb went off over my head. . .!!!!!!!

And the rest, along with a LOT more luck, and a lot of work, as they way. . .is history.

•

The first 17 years of my work on eBooks was boring.

The first years of the Internet were boring, too.

Anyone who says they were exciting must have been insiders– with a totally different perspective–as there was nothing– literally nothing–of interest to the general public.

Therefore I am skipping over all those years in which I made some little efforts at making eBooks without a single word– not one–in response to the idea of eBooks other than that I was crazy to want to put Shakespeare in a computer.

Remember, this is my own perspective, I didn't know all that was going on in other parts of the world, though I will make an effort to fill in those gaps to some degree here.

Thus we jump from the early 1970's to the second half of the 1980's with just a heartfelt nod to Steves Jobs and Wozniak, the inventors of the personal computer, and Bill Gates, IBM, and the IBM cloners who brought PCs to the mainstream.

Here is the briefest of histories of that period.

My own first computers were cheapies like Atari's, and a few 4040 chips that I never got around to building into anything at all, and then, finally a couple second hand CP/M machines that turned out to actually be useful in that I could call a lot of other computers with them, though at great expense as I learned when I received my first phone bill afterwards.

In addition I got WordStar with each of those machines, thus starting my career of banging away at my own keyboard to see what I could create on my own computers.

I eventually built my first "gray market" IBM machine, for a whopping total of $3300, even using nearly all scrap parts– and the conversion to DOS from CP/M really got me hooked, as I could write my own batch files, to automate nearly all the processes I used on a daily or weekly basis.

In addition I got Word Perfect, which turned out to have the best phone

support in the world, in addition to being one of the best programs in the world, and I was off to the races– so to speak–as eBooks suddenly became much easier to make– via the macro commands you could write in Word Perfect and a host of other features that made creating eBooks a breeze up to the point of doing the final save. . .that was slow.

In addition, around the same time I became a BBS SysOP for a somewhat famous BBS [Bulletin Board System] and thus learned a LOT about communicating with people around the world a lot before I got back on the Internet [see the next section].

Why Supporting Project Gutenberg eBooks Does So Much More

Project Gutenberg eBooks are:

1. Free to the Entire World
2. Permanent
3. Classics
4. Promoting World Literacy
5. Promoting World Education
6. Powerful Research Tools

Many of you are undoubtedly aware of the huge pledge drives we hear and see for public radio and television, virtually all those we see and hear there make salaries well above the median, but I wonder if you are aware of the fact that investing in eBooks would make major changes in civilization long after the radio or television show has been broadcast for the last time.

Every year the average public television or radio station may spend a million dollars in time and money but Project Gutenberg has never spent a million dollars in its entire 35 years of existence, yet we have given away trillions of eBooks even if the average eBook makes it to only 1% of the world population.

Project Gutenberg eBooks are:

1. Free to the Entire World

No charge is ever made by Project Gutenberg for any of the ~100,000 eBooks we provide to the world at large.

1. Permanent

These eBooks are permanent, both in the sense that we encourage you to keep them forever, and that we keep them online forever; not one Project Gutenberg eBook has ever been lost other than Martin Luther King's "I Have A Dream" speech, which was ruled for and against the copyrighted status request by the King Estate several times, and we deleted it without any request from the King Estate.

1. Classics

The Project Gutenberg collection includes classics writers from all over the world, and we are in the process of seeking to complete an assortment of collected works. According to various authorities in the library worlds, Project Gutenberg already has the most complete collections of several authors.

1. Promoting World Literacy

Project Gutenberg eBooks in made in such a way as to promote use of various "read aloud" programs that allow people to read in the book while the computer reads the text aloud.

```
"Giving a person a fish
Feeds them for one day;
Teaching Them To Fish--
Feeds them for life--."
```

We subscribe to the same philosophy about teaching people to read.

1. Promoting World Education

Once a person has learned to read, all you have to do is provide an ever expanding number of books to provide ever expanding education.

We solicit books from all over the world, in all languages from all walks of life to provide an open doorway from any part of the world to any other part of the world.

1. Powerful Research Tools

Project Gutenberg eBooks are not just for reading, we receive large numbers of requests, and thanks, for the use of eBooks in research. You might be surprised at the number of universities worldwide from whom come research based on Project Gutenberg eBooks, not to say in the case of the best selling novel of the past four years.

Your contributions to Project Gutenberg will help make trillions of eBooks journey from our sites to the world at large.

Where else can you sponsor a book that can reach a billion readers, just a day after it is completed?

Where else can you sponsor books that never wear out?

Where else can you sponsor books that are never lost?

Every Project Gutenberg eBook that was ever listed in our catalogue is still available, in more and more formats with better and better proofreading, on more and more sites. Except of course, for King's "I Have A Dream" speech, as mentioned above.

•

You can make more difference to the future of the world investing a contribution to Project Gutenberg than any other possible way.

Please support Project Gutenberg at http://www.gutenberg.org/donate

Help break down the bars of ignorance and illiteracy.

Thank you!

Michael S. Hart Founder Project Gutenberg

Dr. Gregory B. Newby CEO Project Gutenberg

Footnote: in just the time I have been composing this, deletion of several books from The Project Gutenberg Consortia Center have been made at the request of Conde Nast, while we research copyrights.

eBOOK CRITICS: JUDGING AN eBOOK BY ITS COVER

The vast majority of Project Gutenberg's critics aren't judging the eBooks themselves, but rather on what is literally material that usually is presented on or near the cover of paper books– and the general appearance of the eBook on their screens, which is, sadly to say, their choice, not Project Gutenberg's.

Here is a list of the most common criticisms:

Color Font Margination Pagination Catalog Data

Cover Art [This from a few years ago, not a current item]

Those Who Complain The Loudest Never Seem To Read The Books:

Interestingly enough, the people who complain the loudest will usually be those who have the least to say about the contents, usually giving no indication that they have actually READ some particular eBook or collection they are complaining about.

We have made a great effort to make Project Gutenberg's eBooks work well with the widest variety of hardware and software and thus often do not include end-of-line hyphenation, pagination, or page numbers, as these can and do upset the reading process of both human beings and computer programs.

It is very important to us that search programs be able to get to the quotations you want to find, that our eBooks contain an entirely minimal number of strange characters that might upset the ability to search or cut and paste into emails, into those wide variety of word processors out there, etc.

Even more important to the visually challenged, is the ability to either read aloud from eBooks or to adjust the font size or shape to suit those readers.

Thus we do as little as possible to force such formalities and styles onto our readers.

Form and Formality versus Content:

99% of the complaints are about how the books LOOK rather than what is in the contents of the eBooks.

The Choice Is Yours:

These Are YOUR Choices, NOT Made For You By Project Gutenberg

Project Gutenberg has gone out of its way to insure that eBooks are readable in nearly any combination of hardware and software people are likely to encounter, and to leave the choice of font and color selection up to the reader, yet the most common facts commented upon by many eBook readers is that they prefer how an eBook appears on a certain combination of hardware and software other than the defaults that are installed on their computers.

Anyone who is willing to take a few minutes to set their colors and fonts to their own choices will have all these eBooks in an infinite, or close to it,

variety.

For those who do not choose, it is rather like riding a bicycle without ever shifting the gears.

Today it is difficult to buy a computer with less than millions and millions of colors, presuming only one million are suitable for the foreground color, and only one million for backgrounds, that leaves a trillion possible color combination even allowing for eliminating nearly all the choices before you even start.

I have no idea how many fonts are available today that come for free with computers, but I do know that you can buy more for an entirely nominal price, usually by the hundreds or thousands.

Setting your own choice of margins and page length is trivial– you can do it in a variety of ways.

What An eBook Should Or Should Not Be:

Many people believe that an eBook should be nothing more than a Xerox of their own favorite paper edition, and that all edition choices other than their own personal favorite should never see the light of day, at least as far as eBook editions go. Such a narrow-minded approach is probably reminiscent of the comments, hundreds and thousands of years ago, about the changes from the written manuscripts before The Gutenberg Press, 500+ years back, and the change from scrolls to bound books 1,000 years ago.

The truth is that most of the classics were written in formats, and styles, that look nothing like what we see when we read the same content today.

What Is A Book?

A book is usually a collection of words by a certain person who felt a need to communicate certain thoughts and feelings to the rest of the world. Modern books sometimes contain illustration pages that would only have been available as woodcuts earlier– and the most modern books might include “multimedia” materials.

When we read the classics, and most of the Project Gutenberg is made up of classics and their contemporaries, we are not really reading anything that resembles the original work, which is not unlikely to have been written with a quill pen, or even earlier writing implements.

Nevertheless, these “purists” give the impression that classics were all written

originally in English, in book form, and these books should never be changed with respect to appearance and to content, even to the point of preserving the obvious errors.

Sorry, but I'm just not willing to spend my life preserving the errors of previous generations of publishers who copied by hand up until The Gutenberg Press, in a wide variety of translations that have often gone through various iterations of the game our parties used to play, called "telephone," where we found out an enormous amount of what happens when one person tells another– then that person tells another, etc. You can be sure that what we read as the Greek Classics have often gone through just such a process, right down to such obvious errors as:

The Red Sea

versus

The Reed Sea

and

Thou Shalt Not Kill

versus

Thou Shalt Not Commit Murder

As I said back in the days when we first started Shakespeare on Project Gutenberg, I am not going to get involved in discussion after discussion about whether it should be:

To be or not to be

or

To be, or not to be

or

To be; or not to be

or

To be: or not to be

or

To be- or not to be

or

To be–or not to be

or something else.

This is of no interest to 99% of the readers.

Personally, I doubt if there are even .000001% of the world in which there is even the chance of such a question arising when reading Shakespeare.

The truth is that, other than perhaps The First Folio: which, as many have pointed out, sometimes goes out of its way for an opportunity to be obscure, you can get 99% of what Shakespeare is all about by reading nearly any edition, and Shakespeare is one of the rare cases when the editions have differences in an obvious manner.

Most different editions of the same book are 99.99% the same– and those differences are usually just obvious errors, or some comments that have been added, but not really a change in word choices, punctuation choices, etc., by the original author.

Yet the “purists” will spend untold portions of their careers, such as they are, arguing about not only if Shakespeare wrote, or did not write, a certain punctuation mark, much less if the author of what we call “Shakespeare” was really Shakespeare.

I recall a specific example where one of the most famous of an elite corps of universities once commissioned an entire year’s salary to count how many times Shakespeare used the word “the” in his works. . .this in a era when there were already eBooks, and probably more than one of each Shakespeare play, that made counting the word “the” something that could have been done in no time at all, even if several different counting programs of different manufacturers were used to get varied results.

The truth is that such a project could easily have been done– and done within a very high degree of confidence–by students, or anyone else, for that matter, without the attentions of the faculty professors at the very highest level at the quite very most elite university on the entire planet.

Did someone really think this was worth an entire years’ pay?

Or was this some kind of elitist intellectual snobbery?

That's what we get lots of time as Project Gutenberg critics– elitist intellectual snobbery–of the kind that says without a certain pedigree from The British or American Kennel Club, the value of an eBook is absolutely nothing, unless and until this pedigreed information is included.

However, once you start correcting errors, and I am unwilling, as stated much earlier, to engage in the error preservation, a simple identification with just one paper edition is a lie and I am not willing to lie, either.

I leave it to the ivory tower types to argue about how many of what kind of angels can sit or stand or dance on a pinhead and then I leave it to the pinhead to figure out what to do with a band of angels on their heads.

Personally, I recommend Selsun Blue or Head And Shoulders.

Conclusion:

My apologies for spending so much time on this, but truly, the complaints are mostly all of such natures as described above.

These arguments are interminable, from the points of view of a person who says the books must include Dewey Decimal System in the header to those saying it must include Library of Congress to those who say it must the Union Cataloguing to those saying it must be some other system of cataloging.

The truth is that many of these books, perhaps even most, came without any such information included, not even a date, as the United States was the only country to require a date and it is no longer requiring it, just to make knowing when copyright is expired just all that harder to figure out. Copyright is more of a topic than I want to get into here, let me just say go to my articles about copyright to find out that copyright was the invention of those who wanted to stop The Gutenberg Press, and each subsequent publishing technology, that would/could/should have brought libraries of information to the commons.

My strongest suggestion on these matters is simply to remember to forget the ivory tower argumentation that is designed with, sadly to say, nothing more than a pretension to keep libraries of eBooks away from the commons and the commoners, and to keep information close to the vest of "the vested interests."

You can get 99% of the information from 99% of the editions of nearly any book in the whole world, with the exception, of the most conspicuous of these "purists," those who would abridge– Bowdlerize–or burn what they don't want you to read.

Remember, people died for your right to read the public domain books of the world, starting with the breaking of the monopoly over religious works that created The Protestant Reformations, right down to those who are still alive today after fighting a World War to take down the book burners.

“Where They Burn Books, They Will, Eventually, Burn People.”

If those who want permanent copyright had their way, you would not even be able to look up the source of that quotation.

A History Of Power From The Gutenberg Revolution To The Computer Revolution

This piece is a result of conversations with a number of knowledgeable people who do not seem to be as aware of the history of power as I expected, with an emphasis on the kind of power used in The Industrial Revolution through today which I am hopefully labeling as The Neo-Industrial Revolution.

The kinds of power under discussion will range from ancient waterwheels to an electronic age that most of us don’t understand yet even though we are living right in the middle of the Internet Age and computers are ubiquitous and this will also include several kinds of social, political and economic power.

How did humanity raise itself up from an illiterate agrarian population?

Why is it that you can read what I am writing?

The answer to both questions starts with Johannes Gutenberg’s invention known to us as The Gutenberg Press.

This was the first example of “mass production” in the world.

It was also the first example of metallurgy being used for purposes more than agriculture or arms and armor.

In addition, it was the first example of “interchangeable parts,” something a whole world would not figure out for 400 more years, and the starting pointer to the Industrial Revolution that would not officially start by the standards of modern day historians for another 300 years.

This is an introduction to less than half the ways The Gutenberg Press led to The Industrial Revolution.

However, the real reason I am writing this for you is to tell you about a new

Industrial Revolution that is taking place around us at this very moment, but that the current powers-that-be would prefer you remained ignorant of just as the same thing was preferred in Gutenberg's day, which luckily for us, failed so miserably that most of us don't know of it.

But it also succeeded more than most of us know. . .read on to find out.

Today few of us can deny the power of the Internet, as Dan Rather, one of the most powerful persons in the world was in the middle of efforts to bring down an even more powerful person, The President of the United States, when no one in particular, a person with a name that will not go down in history, pointed out in Internet discussions, specifically in World Wide Web discussions, that Mr. Rather's sources were somewhat suspect in some too modern form of content that were never actually challenged, yet another triumph of form over content that I have recorded over the years.

This kind of power, the power of a nobody to put an end to the career of such a person as Dan Rather, Head of CBS News and to successfully retain George W. Bush as President of the United States is the one kind of power Martin Luther used when he brought down the Roman Catholic Church in Europe, again through, as fate would have it, an unnamed person or person who republished his words, via The Gutenberg Press, the Internet of Luther's day.

The world had hardly been aware of The Gutenberg Press for the half a century since Gutenberg's invention changed the face of publishing forever, and today the world has hardly been aware of The Computer Revolution for 50 years. Yet these two events, some half a millennium apart, both changed the world in the same manner, bringing information to the public that had heretofore been only the province of the elites of education and wealth and power, though they did not always reside together in the same person, family, or company.

The Gutenberg Press was run by human muscle power and even though limitations of human power were great, the ability of only a few people to turn out books that should have taken the monks and scribes of that era lifetimes to produce on their own was an astonishing event, even from the perspective of 500 years later and beyond.

The fact that anyone, much less an unknown such as Martin Luther, challenging the Roman Catholic Church, could have even the remotest chance of success was heretical at least, and revolutionary at best.

Yet most of us, even half a millennium later, have heard of Martin Luther and The Protestant Movement of which he was the father.

What we don't often hear is that we only know of him because his friends took his words to the local Kinko's du jour and made copies, copies they then sent to influential people around Europe, and the rest, as they say, is history.

From these small beginnings as far as print shops go, huge beginnings, as far as the effects of those print shops goes, comes the entire publishing history that is one of the major subjects we are considering.

Another kind of power is the kind that powered The Gutenberg Presses as those evolved into more and more advanced forms of publication such as steam and/or electrically powered printing presses. Interestingly enough, I haven't found any references to water powered printing presses. Interestingly enough water power had already been harnessed for the making of paper in wider portions of the world long before Gutenberg. Perhaps any of my readers who can find such a reference to water powered printing presses would advise me.

Most historians pretty much ignore the effects of The Gutenberg Revolution in any other aspect than directly related to publishing, concentrating on merely if the word "merely" can be used on something so important, on the facts that millions of books, perhaps as many as about 25 million, according to some for whom this is a topic of scholarly expertise, were published using the presses following the model of The Gutenberg Press by the end of the 1400's. Some in their scholar wisdom even give Gutenberg credit for starting what became that historical period known as The Scientific Revolution.

But none of them seem to give Gutenberg credit for what eventually became The Industrial Revolution, even though he obviously invented the first example of what later became known as "mass production."

In Gutenberg's shop, two experienced printers could turn out work that should have been over a decade's work by an experienced scribe and do it in one day, with each page identical to every other page. It should be noted here that a scribe didn't always try to keep the same words on the same pages, nor did it seem reasonable to expect that every word would be spelled exactly the same.

250 pages an hour, at least 10 hours a day, thousands of pages per day. . . .

Mass production.

By the end of the 1400's there were as many print shops in Europe as the page count from a day's labor by those two man print teams.

2500 printing presses, 2500 pages per day, 6,250,000 pages per day,

presuming only a 10 hour workday, short for the time, and no press improvements.

Truly mass production, and more books were printed with these Gutenberg press print shops that had been printed in all previous history. 30,000 titles.

.

However, let's not presume that there were no reactionary politickings on the subject of this publishing revolution.

The Stationers Guild, the secular scribes on the order of Bob Cratchit of the Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" fame, though Mr. Cratchit also did arithmetic on his pages, was not pleased to see their previously permanent monopoly lost to this single invention that turned the entire idea of "bookness" upside down.

Indeed those who had bought libraries of books before The Gutenberg Press had some aversion to the addition of these new kinds of books to their libraries, as they might devalue the enormous cost of the previous collection.

For these people it was obviously not the content of the book that was of the greatest concern for determining its value, but some other factor[s]. Today, in my own efforts to bring electronic books to the world I often see much see much the same sort of thing.

After all, why would anyone want a one pound library containing as many books at home, and easily searchable, as the average public library down the road?

Obviously such paradigm shifts take much longer for those heavily invested in the previously existent paradigm, as has been exemplified in so many ways.

As always, these paradigm shifts seem to come faster and faster as time goes, and eventually some come to the point of "Future Shock."

It took 250 years for The Stationers Guild, later renamed Stationers Company, to finally regain their monopolistic control over the publishing industry, at least in Great Britain, as the number of titles available for UK readers fell from 6,000 to 600 overnight, thus beginning the trade in illegal books from a perspective of both censorship and scholarship.

Going back to The Gutenberg Revolution, it doesn't take much research to find examples of books being taken out of publication by The Catholic

Church via a process of burning the publisher at the stake.

The powers and forces at work here, both secular and religious, are powerful, amazing in that they have gone largely unreported throughout history, and are still engaged in the same kind of behavior today.

Perhaps the reason that they are so largely unreported is that the very ones we would rely on to convey them must go through the very publishing industry that would censor what they have to say.

Here are a few example in light of the kinds of power discussed here:

The first publishing revolution was obviously that of Johannes Gutenberg and the Reactionary politicking of The Stationers managed to stifle or take over all of the presses in Great Britain via “The Statute of Anne” in 1709-1710: the first successful copyright law as we know it today.

I say “first successful copyright law” because The Stationers attempted with even harsher copyrights at least back to 1557, and probably even earlier.

These earlier copyright laws, even when they became law, were so stringent a restriction on all rights to all writings for all previous history, giving a total monopoly to The Stationers on everything ever written, that no one saw them as being worthy of obedience or enforcement.

However, it should be noted that the origin of copyright law dates back from before The Statute of Anne, and that The Statute of Anne was only a good law by comparison to these previous attempts.

Even so, for the first 14 years of publication all rights belonged to member publishers of The Stationers Company, and the only rights for the author was a possible 14 year renewal that could only be made by a living author and of no value if the book was already out of print or if The Stationers decided a book should go out of print when the author renewed the copyright.

This is what happens when you allow the previous status quo to be retained a longer period through legislation.

Yet the examples go far and wide.

Most of us have studied steam power to some extent, from the fold tales of a Mr. John Henry competing head to head with a steam powered drill to Fulton’s steamboat, to the steam locomotive and even the Stanley Steamer that held an assortment of speed records for many more decades that one might thing. The nuclear navy is all steam powered, when it comes down to

it.

The history of steam power is quite amazing, even down to the steam power of harvesters and threshers that used to travel the United States as crops came in and for a relatively small fee would bring in the crops in much less time and with much less worry about the weather.

Yes, the history of steam power is most fascinating, and worth a good look.

But most of us have never heard of steam power printing presses.

Why not?

Here is the story.

The United States became an independent country and started its copyright in 1790 with only a relatively small number of copyright issued to start with.

Nevertheless, when these first 28 year copyright periods began to expire for those relatively few books still in print and making a profit, a new patent, for the first high speed steam printing press, was issued in 1830, just time enough to start republishing the first expiring copyrighted U.S. materials.

Once again a new publishing technology was stifled by copyright law with the U.S. Copyright Act of 1831, which extended previous copyrights 14 more years and thus stopped the owners of the new high speed steam presses cold.

The same thing is true of electricity.

Just as steam power was the up and coming thing two centuries, complete with new high speed printing presses.

However, for the record, it should be noted that they very first of electric printing press patent was issued in the same decade as that high speed steam press mentioned above, but steam was the more prevalent form of power for an awfully long time, so electric presses didn't get much publicity, and should be noted as not being viable at all where there was no electric power.

However, by one century ago, electricity was the rage, and steam power could be relied upon to transport materials quickly and inexpensively to vast wide populations in areas that used to be considered quite remote.

The combination of wide railroad service with new higher speed printing left an opening that Sears and Roebuck couldn't resist and they published catalog books of 768 pages, complete with lavish illustration, and mailed them via a new Rural Federal Delivery system, to millions and millions of households at

no cost to the recipient.

For millions of people this was the first book they ever owned.

Once again, this sort of thing was too much for the old publishing industry, as new publishers sprang up at remote railroad crossings, installed printing presses that could fill a boxcar overnight, and shipped books far and wide– at prices that gave heart attacks to the olde boye networke publishers.

The result, a third copyright law, again expressly designed to stifle yet an entirely new technology of publication.

The evidence of this is still available at your local used book store.

Just go in and ask for books about 100 years old.

You'll find a number of reprint houses dating back before 1909, when the new copyright law went into effect, but only a few of them remained much after.

Before 1909, well over 90% of all books at least 30 years old were reprints, simply because their copyrights had not been renewed in their 28th year.

The original publishers didn't find it profitable to keep them in print.

However, with the new technologies of printing and distribution, publishers of the new variety were able to make a profit where the olde boye networkes had been too lackadaisical to invest.

Instead they invested in the Jack Abramoff lobbyists of their day, just the same way as in the day of the steam powered printing presses, and just that exact same way as The Stationers had invested in the first copyright laws.

Thus we now see THREE Information Ages stifled by this kind of legislation, each time paid for by the olde boye networke of publishers.

The FOURTH such Information Age was that of The Xerox Machine, and its very similar demise at the hands of the U.S. Copyright act of 1976.

The FIFTH such Information Age is the one we currently occupy, and its very similar efforts by the olde boye networke of publishers via U.S. copyright, as set forth in the "Sonny Bono Copyright Act" or "Mickey Mouse Copyright," as the U.S. Copyright Act of 1998 is often called.

Thus we see that THE FIVE MAJOR STEPS OF THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION have the same response from the olde boye networke of the

day:

Let’s pass a law to make our competition illegal.

.

These parallels between publishing and Industrial Revolutions have not been mere accidents of history, as might be thought due to the fact that history as taught and written by historians, has hardly mentioned them at all.

Nevertheless, a popular media, even though they are still part of the “olde boye networke of publishers,” or at least wannabees, have had little effort required in deciding that The Gutenberg Press was the greatest invention of the last millennium, and that Johannes Gutenberg was the greatest person.

Yet, with all the goings on surrounding such proclamations, in publications going to millions or even billions, no mention of the cataclysmic powers by which The Gutenberg Press was stifled in Great Britain to the point that of 30,000 titles in print in Europe in 1500, and who knows how many added from 1500 to 1700, only 600 titles remained in print by The Stationers and those were all in London so it doesn’t take much imagination to envision what the process must have been like for someone from the more remote areas. If you have trouble with such a vision, just read a little Jane Austen to envision what the London scene was as compared to the rest of the country.

These books are available free of charge at http://www.gutenberg.org, along with nearly 20,000 others, and a total of over 50,000 from the various site locations of other Project Gutenberg efforts around the world.

.

Now a similar look at other aspects of Industrial Revolutions.

Since so many people tell me they can’t see the cause and effect between a Gutenberg Press and The Industrial Revolution, a moment to lay out some of the more obvious connections.

1. Metallurgy
2. Mechanical Leverage
3. Social Leverage
4. Political Leverage
5. Interchangeable Parts

6. Mass Production

7. Metallurgy

Before Gutenberg metallurgy wasn't that far removed from alchemy, and that metallurgy was mostly concentrated on weaponry and jewelry, not industrial applications, and just barely agricultural applications.

Before Gutenberg, high tech weaponry was knights in armor and their lances and the various gear for footsoldiers, archers, stirrups, and just barely, gunpowder and firearms.

The tools of science were rudimentary at best and would be refined greatly by the advances of The Industrial Revolution.

Johannes Gutenberg was the first major user of metallurgy for utilitarian, industrial purposes of mass production.

Does anyone really think The Industrial Revolution would have happened via a thought process that did NOT include "Mass Production."

This point alone should be sufficient to make even the most ardent of such detractors rethink their position that The Gutenberg Press was not a real, if not THE real, precursor to The Industrial Revolution.

[More later on mass production, it has its own section below.]

1. Mechanical Leverage

For those who really want to think about The Industrial Revolution, ideals about leverage or "mechanical advantage" as they called it, are necessary.

The Gutenberg Press employed several kinds of mechanical leverage, most of it taken outright from presses used to extract juices and oils from a wide variety of crops.

However, this time the leverage was used for something other than replaced previous methods of doing the same thing.

We can talk about leverage going back to the caveman's club, and up to the point, the literal point, of the knight's lance, arrow tips, and even that dual leverage of the sword edge that makes it so effective, but the major, repeat MAJOR, difference is that this leverage was for industrial purposes that had never been considered before.

Does anyone really think The Industrial Revolution would have happened via

a thought process that did NOT include “industrial leverage.”

1. Social Leverage

Here we change value systems from technology to society.

Technological inventions are one thing, sociological inventions another.

Before Gutenberg all inventions were of the “trickle down” variety.

The invention started with the rich and trickled down to the poor.

The Gutenberg Press was an invention that brought books to everyone, right from the first generation anyone noticed it was there.

It was NOT something first monopolized by the rich, then “trickled down.”

A basic effect of The Gutenberg Press was general sociological advantage.

Does anyone really think The Industrial Revolution would have happened via a thought process that did NOT include “sociological advantage.”

i.e. If you couldn’t SELL your product to the general public, then it was NOT to your personal advantage to engage in “mass production.”

[More later on mass production, it has its own section below.]

1. Political Leverage

I only write this at this location to remind you that political leverages were only used AGAINST bringing so much to the masses at such low prices.

Governments, at least those governing The Stationers Company, ostensibly, in the true sense of the word, were to create the general welfare of that whole country, and not just the royalty, as of The Magna Carta.

Does anyone think The Gutenberg Press, the steam press, or electric press or the more modern technologies of The Xerox Machine and the Internet all would have had much greater impact if not for the various copyright laws, passed solely to stifle their progress.

Whether you agree that those laws were passed solely to stifle progresses of these particular inventions or not, you’ll probably still have to step back and admit that they would each have had a much greater effect if the copyright laws hadn’t happened just at the right time to stop them.

Does anyone really thing The Gutenberg Press and those various successors would not have had an even greater impact on civilization if not for some very powerful reactionary “Political Leverage.”

1. Interchangeable Parts

Obviously interchangeable parts are one of the staples of modern aspects, perhaps over the past 150 years, of industrialization.

But few acknowledge that the first interchangeable parts were the letters created by Johannes Gutenberg for his printing press.

Does anyone really think we could have had the last 150 years of bringing more and more industrialization about without “interchangeable parts.”

1. Mass Production

The entire concept of Industrial Revolutions is based on Mass Production.

The entire concept of Mass Production is based on The Gutenberg Press.

After all, there WAS no Mass Production before The Gutenberg Press.

Does anyone really think The Industrial Revolution would have happened via a thought process that did NOT include “Mass Production.”

1.

Synergy

The concepts listed above, powerful as they are, have much greater effects when used together than when used separately.

While Gutenberg is sometimes credited with starting Scientific Revolutions due to increasing the entire literacy and education level, there seems for the present to be very little understanding of how his printing processes, and their underlying technologies, created even greater changes through an Industrial Revolution that was a combination of new science and technology that combined these fundamental advances and also combined them with great scientific and technological advances yet to come.

Much as Thomas Edison is credited with inventing “research and development laboratories” as a result of his Menlo Park operations, we should all give equal credit to Gutenberg for creating the “interdisciplinary” products as well a for creating the first “mass production” workshop, and the earliest uses of metallurgy for industrial mass production.

Add to these the concept of “interchangeable parts” and you have perhaps a greater contribution to the modern world than previous conceived.

These are a wide range of concepts that are very fundamental to the ideals of The Industrial Revolution, no matter how far back you go, or do not go, in your definition of The Industrial Revolution.

I challenge those who would deny the connection from The Gutenberg Presses of half a millennium ago to The Industrial Revolution to come up with some other example, ANY other example, that provides even a reasonable fraction of the impact of these fundamental concepts for The Industrial Revolution.

I barely even mentioned the requirements for the more literate or educated members of society needed to create such new sciences or new technologies, and that is no small feature of the basis for The Industrial Revolution or for The Neo-Industrial Revolution I am predicting will sweep the planet as a result of The Computer Revolution, the Internet, and the World Wide Web.

The truth is that none of you would ever have heard of me if not for these aspects of The Neo-Industrial Revolution that allow me, someone without an even ordinary set of credentials, to try worldtipping on the scale of some of the people I have mentioned above.

I am the first to admit that my contribution was small, just the snowball, the one that started the avalanche of eBooks you see around you today, and I have, as Isaac Newton said, “Stood On The Shoulders Of Giants” to create that little snowball, and have been helped by 40,000 volunteers and others who have created the entire eBook industry.

Yet, my purpose here is to say that this contribution will appear smaller, vastly smaller, compared to The Neo-Industrial Revolution I am predicting.

It is the first day of my 60th Spring, and, as always, my vision is set on the future, a future I hope will make all the efforts I have described via the words above pale by comparison.

My hope is that Project Gutenberg and eBooks in general should provide the foundation for a Neo-Industrial Revolution that will make the previous few industrial revolutions also pale by comparison.

Anything that can be digitized can travel across the Internet at speeds we define as instantaneous if we are on good connections, somewhat slower for those at the end of slow wires. For my own purposes, I am lucky in so far as the eBooks I have made a career of promoting travel very well over such

wires and thus are even more instantaneous than other materials.

However, not only will the Internet continue to get faster, but more of an assortment of developments such as MIT's FABrication LABoratories[FABLABs] become more and more widely available, but the specifications for stuff to make with them will become more and more widely available, until you would be able to make thousands, if not millions, of things at FABLABs, all over the world, in every country, just as we do with eBooks today.

Don't believe me?

Well, you should have heard all the comments for the first 17 years of the time I spent talking about eBooks!

Not even my best friends who helped me the most believed eBooks were going to ever get off the ground, must less fly like the Wright Brothers or like modern day airplanes.

eBooks are so commonplace today that when I do Google searches I find that I am reading a book when I don't even know it. . .it just so happened that today while I was researching The Industrial Revolution, printing presses, and the like, I ended up with my searches taking me to eBooks, without any warning whatsoever. . .until I realized there were little Google clues for the fact they were eBooks, but I realised it only after the fact.

Someday, nearer in the future than the first step toward eLibraries was in the past, someone will search for parts and those part will be made by MIT FABLABs or the like, and the person won't know it any more than I realized after the fact that I my hit from the Google search was an eBook.

Such parts will be "printed" or "manufactured" via the capabilities of the new 3-D printers, FABLABS, and other methods of creating material objects, objects whose origin lies in computer files of miles away.

For those who want to start the clock counting, that's about the beginning of 2040, but my own feeling is that it will happen even sooner, so much so that it might have already happened. I've heard of people making parts a person needed for a washing machine in a FABLAB in Africa{?) so all it may take to make my prediction already have come true as that the person given the part didn't know how it got there.

To someone in remote Africa is UPS all that different from a FABLAB?

The point is that more and more solid three dimensional objects are going, or

should I say coming, to be available via “printers,” machine shops, and other devices that can make three dimensional objects from a file.

More and more of our low tech industries, not just high tech, are making a move to automated manufacturing of this nature.

Desktop 3-D printers cost less now than an IBM-AT computer did in 1984 and you don’t even have to factor inflation into the equation. If you did you would perhaps get two of the 3-D printers for the cost of one IBM-AT.

The price of a FABLAB is reported to be only twice that of the IBM-AT with no inflation, or perhaps the same price without inflation. $20,000 or now perhaps $25,000, as a Google search just informed me. Cheap at the price!

Conclusion

Today we take using such Google searches for granted, something that quite recently didn’t even exist, now it’s just a minute of searching to find an exact quote on the price of something as new and complex as a FABLAB.

In the same respect, I am proud to say that the best selling book of a few years now, The da Vinci Code, was researched extensively using eBooks from Project Gutenberg, as you can see is in quite good company listed there on the acknowledgements page with The Louvre and Bibliotheque National, and a few other prime resources.

Those who don’t think things will change in the future just are not paying much attention to how things are changing right now.

The average car today has hundreds of functions carried out by computer we rarely ever consider. Our analog radios and televisions are full of stuff that comes from digital sources, though it will probably all be digitized, sooner rather than later, just so they can make a trillion literal dollars selling new devices and another trillion dollars selling you the rights to tape the shows you tape for free today.

What?

They didn’t mention that part!

Hmmm.

I wonder why not?

If you understood the little history of publishing and copyright above it should have been obvious.

The more the publishing media CAN deliver to the masses, the more it will be that laws are passed to STOP that same media from reaching the masses.

So it has been since The Gutenberg Press, and so it shall be until/unless something even more revolutionary happens.

This article was written in response to comments from Professor George Francis and others after my talk for The Imaging Technology Group at the Beckman Center at the University of Illinois, April 18, 2006.

Please forgive the U.S. perspective on prices and laws, I realize that other countries have more expensive gas, and haven't changed copyright laws nearly as much. mh

The Fifth Information Age

There Have Been 5 Technological Revolutions In Publishing

Each one of these "Information Ages" had potential to make the public domain available to the public masses as prices hundreds of times less expensive than publishers' prices.

Did you know that 50 years ago the price of paperbacks was about the same as the price of a gallon of gasoline?

25 cents!

Today the world media is FULL of reports of high prices in the oil world, with United States gasoline at $3 a gallon, some 12 times as much as that 25 cents I grew up with.

Yet there are no stories about how the same books I bought for the same 25 cents are today averaging $8 !!!!!!!

Don't believe me?

Just call Borders or Barnes & Noble and ask for mysteries, Erle Stanley Gardner's Perry Mason mysteries to be exact– and you will find that the cheapest one of these is around $7 and that there are many paperbacks at higher prices.

-

Introduction

We keep hearing about how we are in "The Information Age," but rarely is

any reference made to any of four previously created Information Ages, and technology changes that were as powerful in the day as the Internet is today.

The First Information Age, 1450-1710, The Gutenberg Press, reduced the price of the average books four hundred times. Stifled by the first copyright laws that reduced the books in print in Great Britain from 6,000 to 600, overnight.

The Second Information Age, 1830-1831, Shortest By Far The High Speed Steam Powered Printing Press Patented in 1830, Stifled By Copyright Extension in 1831.

The Third Information Age, ~1900, Electric Printing Press Exemplified by The Sears Catalog, the first book owned by millions of Americans. Reprint houses using such presses were stifled by the U.S. Copyright Act of 1909.

The Fourth Information Age, ~1970, The Xerox Machine made it possible for anyone to reprint anything. Responded to by the U.S. Copyright Act of 1976.

The Fifth Information Age, Today, The Internet and Web. Hundreds of thousands, perhaps even a million, books from A to Z are available either free of charge or at pricing, "To Cheap To Meter" for download or via CD and DVD. Responded to by the "Mickey Mouse Copyright Act of 1998," The Digital Millennium Copyright Act, The Patriot Act and any number of other attempted restrictions/restructures.

The First Information Age

1450-1710

The one Information Age that gets any references at all is the age of The Gutenberg Press, where more books were made in the first half century of The Gutenberg Press than in a whole previous history of civilization.

However, it should be equally important to point out facts about how The Stationers Company worked for 250 years from the invention of The Gutenberg Press to lobby in laws that would return to them the previous monopoly they had on the entire world of the publishing industry. While failure on failure on failure befell their political machinations, it should be noted that they never gave up even after success was apparent in 1557 with the passage of what I called the "Statute of Mary" turned out to be the passage of laws the people and the state were both loathe to treat as law.

However, another 150 years of intense efforts, culminating in the "Statute of Anne" in 1709-1710, finally created the basis of modern copyright law, in

which most of the powers granted were to the publishers, with only a few crumbs for the authors of the works they published. The original law gave all rights to every word ever written in history to a business cartel known first as The Stationers Guild and in later times as The Stationers Company. The new law gave a first copyright term of 14 years to The Stationers Company and a second copyright term to an author, but only if that author was still alive and only of value if the works were still selling well after the initial 14 years.

Needless to say that in the early 1700's, neither case was anything remotely approaching a certainty, and the authors got very little chance to benefit from such a copyright.

Thus The First Information Revolution Bit The Dust

The Second Information Age

The High Speed Steam Powered Printing Press

1830-1831 [The shortest Information Age on record]

While the 1700's were certainly The Age of Revolution from the point of view of nations such as The United States and soon after for France, they were not The Age of Revolution for either publishing or copyright; both The United States and France adopted the copyright terms provided to England by The Stationers Company.

Thus the de facto copyright term stood at 14 years with an extension possible for an additional 14 years.

American copyright started with the U.S. Copyright Act, in 1790, which meant that the first decade of a United States best seller list entered into the public domain on January 1, 1829, which prompted the invention of the very first of the high speed steam powered printing presses in 1830.

However, this second Information Age was destined to be so short as to never make it into most history books as there was such an intense effort by the American publisher lobby that the copyright law was extended in 1831, thus wiping a new Information Age out of existence, almost before it got got started, literally.

The American version of The Stationers Company was alive– and well–even though it wasn't officially in existence.

It is hard to believe that a new copyright law should have been enacted to stifle the new high speed printing presses only a single year after the patent

was issued.

The fortunes of “ye olde boye networke” were preserved, at the expense of the public domain, and this time instead of a 250 year Information Age before copyright intervened for the sole purpose of preserving “ye olde boye networke,” it was an Information Age lasting only a single year.

Thus The Second Information Revolution Bit The Dust

Footnote: while some view the intervening period from the U.S. Copyright Act of 1831 to this U.S. 1909 Copyright Act as an interruption of copyright extensions due to the U.S. Civil War, others will point out that extensions WERE made to U.S. copyright law in terms of breadth if not length.

One example would be that the Civil War photographs by the likes of Matthew Brady instigated on behalf of publishers, not so much for Brady, himself, the extension of copyright to include photographs and other items previous thought to have been outside the scope of intellectual property.

The Third Information Age

The Electric Printing Press

Circa 1900

For millions upon millions of Americans, the first “books” they ever owned was The Sears Catalog, one true revolution in the history of printing.

The Sears Catalog was feasible for three reasons:

1. Revolutions in Printing Technology
2. Revolutions in Railroad Transportation
3. Revolutions in Mail Delivery Standards
4. Revolutions in Printing Technology

All through the 1800’s, in spite of the restrictive legal wrangling that wiped out the first high speed presses the moment they were patented, more and more advances were in the works making for better and better printing presses.

By the end of the century there was a wealth of printings of public domain materials, pretty much anything that had been published before 1858 was being reprinted by 1900 in various “home libraries.”

You could buy a home library of hydraulics that contained nearly every great publication on the subject from before 1858 for $10, or on the subject of health, law, etc.

The age of truly mass consumption of public domain books, and you can still find these at you local used bookstore.

However, you won't find nearly as many AFTER 1909 as from BEFORE 1909, and here is why.

1. Revolutions in Railroad Transportation

and

1. Revolutions in Mail Delivery Standards

The combination of extremely inexpensive printing, plus a very efficient transcontinental railroad system, added to the new "Rural Federal Delivery" [RFD] of mail, created a new possibility never before considered:

"The Sears Catalog"

This was certainly one of the most revolutionary books in all of history.

A huge book, 768 pages, lavishly illustrated, and free to everyone Sears and Roebuck could give one to.

Apparently the most famous of these was the 1906 edition.

The problem?

The problem was that this made it totally obvious that it was possible to print and deliver millions of books for a price that was so low the books could be given away, free of any charges, just for the purposes of advertising.

This made everyone aware the changes in publishing prices and a new wave of "reprint houses" sprung up near lots of railroad stations where those high speed printing presses could literally fill up a boxcar overnight and have it on the rails to anywhere in the country the next morning.

"Boxcars full of extremely inexpensive books!"

NOT what "ye olde boye networke" wanted to hear.

The result was yet another round of intensive lobbying to create the U.S. Copyright Act of 1909.

Once again, just as in 1831, the new technologies were no match for the trump cards held by “ye olde boye networke” as had been previous used to stifle The Gutenberg Presses and the high speed steam presses.

Thus The Third Information Revolution Bit The Dust

The Fourth Information Age

The Xerox Machine

Pretty much everyone takes the xerox machine for granted, even in Third World countries there are plenty of xeroxes at least for those who can afford them.

What we do NOT take for granted is that along with xerox, came yet another copyright extension, once again trying a “reactionary politics” approach to stifle the advent of a new way of bringing information to the masses.

The oddest part, of course, is that the publishers claim, such as it is, is that the new technologies will harm the sales of their products, but the LAW they proposed is NOT a law to enforce the protection of their copyrights but a law to destroy the protection of the public domain!!!

Each one of these four revolutions in printing technology has been countered by a law that was not designed to make a system for the protection of private property, but that was designed rather for the destruction of public domain, so that no one but the publishers could benefit from each new revolutionary technology that COULD HAVE BROUGHT BOOK BENEFITS TO THE WORLD AT LARGE FOR A MINIMAL PRICE.

The reason for this unhealthy alliance between publishers and politicians is that the politician realize that their constituencies are much more easy to manipulate when kept in ignorance, that an educated public is the enemy of the corrupt political system, and what more corrupt politicos than those of U.S. President Nixon’s terms in office.

Thus it was that the xerox machine was counteracted in an even more extreme case than previous copyright extensions with the elimination of copyright renewal requirements on copyrights that were never renewed 90% of the times, even though the process was trivial and the fee was nominal.

The U.S. Copyright Act of 1976 was started during Nixon’s time in office and carried out by his appointees after he left office in disgrace.

U.S. copyright had been extended from an average of about 30 years in 1900

to an average of 75 years in 1976, a far worse defeat for the public domain than ever before.

Thus The Fourth Information Revolution Bit The Dust

The Fifth Information Age

The Internet

I'm sure more of you are aware of The Computer Revolution than of The Xerox Revolution or The Steam and/or Electric Press Revolutions, and probably even more of you than are aware of the real impact of The Gutenberg Press; example:

Were you aware that we might well have never even heard a word about The 95 Theses of Martin Luther, if his friends hadn't taken them to the local Kinko's du jour and mailed the copies to other people in other countries?

The same sort of thing just happened recently when a very highly placed newsman, Dan Rather, anchorman, head editor and who knows what else of CBS News, was forced to resign by true nobodies who brought his lack of attention to the form [but not the content] of the letter describing a lot of bad behavior by President Bush.

With every new medium comes a new class of people, not of "ye olde boye networke," who adopt that new medium before "ye olde boye networke" is even really aware of it.

Once ye olde boyes ARE aware they do their best to stifle the new medium to only include their paid representatives who toe the official party line.

Hence the latest movements to decrease the speech freedom on the Internet, to let the big boys decided who and what should be seen and heard.

The number of laws passed to stifle the Internet are more than could be listed in a short article such as this one, but I am sure most of you have heard of the DMCA [Digital Millennium Copyright Act], The Patriot Act, and even that new U.S. Copyright Act labeled various as The Sonny Bono, or The Mickey Mouse Copyright Act.

The only think preventing these various laws, and others, from totally stifling the Internet is the vary natures of the widely different networks that make up the Internet– it's just about impossible to effectively police networks in well over 125 languages in nearly twice as many places around the world. Don't believe me? Google, alone, will provide information in 130 languages;

Project Gutenberg's Consortia Center in over 100 languages, and 50 languages, at Project Gutenberg's original site, this very week.

However, if "ye olde boye networke" has its way, as their way has been in the past, The Fifth Information Age could likely be curtailed as effectively as the first four of a history of potential Information Ages.

Will this Information Age byte the dust as they have?

In Conclusion

In 1900 perhaps 50% of all copyrights ever issued expired by the turn of the century, leaving the public domain and copyright well balanced, and with the average copyright a period of about 30 years, the average person would live a long enough lifespan to plan to republish any books their lives included in the first half.

This provided for continuity between past and future that did not depend on "ye olde boye network" for permissions.

ANYONE could republish what they read early in life, with their own personal commentaries on how things had changed in the period since they first read those books.

When I was in grade school we studied slavery, and movies such as Gone With The Wind and Song Of The South were the required mandatory viewing of everyone in the school.

The copyright on Gone With The Wind was issued in 1939 so the longest it could have been kept under copyright laws, up until a 1976 rewrite of U.S. copyright law should have been through the end of the 56th year, or 1995.

Thus I should have been able to fully demonstrate what my schooling required 50 years ago, and how things changed a great deal in the treatment of the subject of slavery for modern school studies.

Disney's Song Of The South South has copyrights back from 2006 to 1944 according to various sources, but that movie I refer to above was apparently copyrighted in 1946, thus the 56 year copyright should have expired 2003.

However, due to the various extensions and other misusage of the copyright laws and their multiple extensions, I am not able to even FIND a copy of Song Of The South as this is no longer considered "politically correct" from Disney Corporation's point of view, so they have censored it out of the public eye.

The current expiration date for Gone With The Wind in the year 2041, and 2048 for Song Of The South, according to a few sources I researched, but those both seem a few years too long for what I understand is the current 95 years.

I would have said 2035 and 2042, respectively.

However, the point remains the same!

No one can expect to live long enough to republish what a person might have seen or read even in grade school.

The continuity of our history has become a discontinuity.

Only corporations can expect to "live" long enough for an untrammeled republication of anything that is copyrighted under our current copyright laws.

As I said in the opening paragraph of this conclusion:

In 1900 perhaps 50% of all copyrights ever issued expired by the turn of the century, leaving the public domain and copyright well balanced, and with the average copyright a period of about 30 years, the average person would live a long enough lifespan to plan to republish any books their lives included in the first half.

In 2100 about 99% of all copyrights ever issued should be expected to still be in force, leaving just 1% to the now threatened public domain, bordering on extinction.

Let's say you took your five year old child to see latest newly copyright movies.

Under the current copyright law, that child would have to live a couple years past 2100 before they could republish whatever it was they saw.

Even those with the longest life expectancies in the wide world can legitimately have such expectations, as to live long enough to republish under such a strict copyright.

Thus the only commentaries we will hear that include that original movie, presuming it will be found [unlike Disney and The Song Of The South], will be the voices of ye olde boye networke. . .voices that have made every effort over the last last 550 years to stifle the printing revolution started by Herr Gutenberg before Columbus was even born.

Footnotes:

I would be remiss in this article that describes the Five Information Ages if I did not add in some prices, and the results of various revolutions in publishing technologies in terms of information affordable by the masses.

Most recently, in my own lifetime, I have see the average price for a paperback go through hyperinflationary spiral figures from 25 cents to $8, from 1955 to 2005.

Just think what the news media would be saying if gallons of gasoline had followed the same pricing, $8 a gallon!!!

-

I receive messages from publisher as famous as the top of Encyclopedia Britannica, constantly informing me of price hikes in paper, binding, shipping, storage and royalties. But the truth is, that the blank books I use for journals haven't changed price at all since I bought my first ones back in the 1960's, and with a vastly improved quality of binding that now includes a variety of cloth covers, with a choice of lined or unlined paper and two to three times as many pages at the same price for 396 pages today as we paid for 160 pages in a cardboard binding in the 1960's.

Each and every time these false statements are presented, my response is to personally go to the bookstore and buy, not just look at, these products available today so I can tell you about them.

Recently the prices for the blank hardback books dropped, perhaps on temporarily, but the last purchase I made from that shelf was 25% less than the price I paid previously, significantly less than I had ever paid before, and for a better quality binding and more pages, as mentioned.

Something is definitely wrong with the arguments made for prices going up for the raw materials and shipping, if it is a price NOT going up for blank books that require that same paper, binding, shipping, warehousing etc.

When I mentioned this to one of those using that logic, I was reminded that the "real" books paid for advertising– placement–etc., but then my research showed that ye olde "Nothing Book" also paid for placement and ads, though it would appear new ones only pay for placement, as I didn't see any advertising, but did notice placement. Perhaps a possible reason the price fell during my research.

I should add that the prices of these various blank books in hardback have

remained between $5 and $10 during years and decades. . .my own person experience with them is for over four decades. This includes various bindings, pages in lined and unlined formats, etc.

In addition, I usually price the Perry Mason mysteries we saw above, and a few other similar paperbacks, to compare with those I have stashed away from my youth, so I do NOT have to rely completely on the statistics from Bowker and others when they are pooh poohed by those who should deny that Bowker knows anything about book pricing.

Then I challenge our current readers to go up into attics all over the world and bring down boxes of books from the parents' collections to compare even more prices.

James Bond paperbacks were all once 50 cents as the price in the 1960's had already started doubling from the price in the 1950's, but look at the price of these that I call to Borders this very moment to confirm:

Here are some samples I just got from the mystery shelf:

Perry Mason:

The Case of the Deadly Toy, $6.99

James Bond Dr. No Trade Paperback Only $13 From Russia With Love Trade Paperback Only $14 [All of the James Bond titles were $13-$14]

Murder She Wrote, Jessica Fletcher $6.99 . . .Question of Murder [All the Murder She Wrote books were $6.99]

Agatha Christie And Then There Were None $6.99 [All the Agatha Christie books were $5.99 or $6.99]

I don't know exactly how many books there are in each set, or how many such classics are ONLY available in the larger and more expensive trade editions so I made another call– specifically designed to find out those differences.

Ayn Rand Atlas Shrugged in the larger trade paperback $20 Atlas Shrugged in the smaller mass paperback $9 The Fountainhead in the smaller mass paperback $9 The Fountainhead in the larger trade paperback $20

Interesting that The Fountainhead used to be less, because it was only 70% as long, but now the prices are the same.

The price ranges here probably include the mast majorities of all paperbacks

in print, as the largest is 1,000+ pages and the smallest is hardly 200.

It is also interesting that it appears many of the classic paperbacks are no longer available in their original quite reasonably price mass market editions, but only in a trade paperback edition that is twice as expensive.

However, not even including the trade paperbacks at double the price of the mass market paperbacks, it would appear a price average of $8 is still a quite reasonable guess, and is 40 times the price of the average paperback in 1955.

By the way, when you look up the 1955 prices, don't forget that THAT price of 15 cents you may find is WHOLESALE, and the retail price was 25 cents.

40% markup is very common in the publishing industry.

As for those who say that increased royalties are a reason for increased prices, the average price of all the authors I have interviewed still remains at about 5%, though I can send you reports that say J.K. Rowling gets 8%.

In conclusion, it would appear that the majority of result factors from copyright extension has been to allow printer revolutions to be monopolized by the publishing industries and thus kept from being passed on to the public.

Obviously using computers to type, lay out, spellcheck and edit books, as well as to prepare the galleys allow saving upon saving to the publishing industry, savings that could have been passed on.

Every publisher I have interviewed, all up and down chains of command from authors to the top brass, have each denied that ANY of the 40 times as much as you pay for paperbacks today goes into their pockets.

Exxon just paid their CEO a billion dollars, half of those dollars in severance pay, so we know where their money was going and they make no attempt at denial.

So why the big denial in the publishing industry?

Hollywood makes a joke out of the fact that movies make no money on paper, so they don't have to pay off royalties to those who own a percentage after "break even."

The publishing industry reacts quite strongly when I ask a simple question about how their bookkeeping compares.

Nevertheless, the real question to ask when the book price goes from 25 cents

to $8 for the same edition, while other prices get so much coverage for going from the same prices to $3. . .is. . ."Where Is The Money Going??? And Why???"

[Ask for separate articles on prices, etc]

Don't Judge A Book By The Cover

This statement is one of the first that many of us learned in school, so obviously true that explanation was not really necessary.

You can't really tell what is in a book by looking at the cover, thus millions of dollars are spent every week on thousands of book reviews from the New York Times, The Times of London, The Times of India, and literally tens of thousands of other newspapers around the world.

Therefore, the question looms large as to why so many people who will label themselves as book lovers actually comment more on the way that books look than on the books' actual content?

To Read, Or Not To Read, That Is The Question

So many of the comments from insiders have ONLY to do with the forms, layouts, fonts, bindings, paper, cataloging information, margination, pagination, hyphenation and linguistic orthography, without any looks or mentions at the actual content of the books that one begins really to wonder if they have actually read the book at all, rather than big efforts to look at the book without actually managing to read it.

This would be tatamount to "Car and Driver" reporting on cars without actually driving them.

They would talk about the great paint job, how the low profile tires, and low profile body work together to create a specific image, how an interior was designed to work more spaciously than the actual numbers of cubic feet available to each passenger, the window visibility, and a host of other items such as the rich Corinthian leather upholstery, but without doing some serious driving, there is no way to tell if an automobile is real, it could just be a mock up that can't move.

If a book fails to move the reader, it has failed as a book in just a similar manner as if a car fails to move its passengers.

All of this is, of course, totally academic if you don't read books.

The Appearance Of Books As Compared To The Appearance Of Persons

We've all been told "The clothes don't make the person," but we still live in a society in which a major portion of the economy are created in a effort to make people judge others by their appearance.

Even if you totally discount the Hollywood and haute couture fashion, a billion people spend additional thousands of dollars to wear things that create the illusion they want to project, rather than being what they actually are, on the surface, as well as inside.

The arguments presented against books in similar conversations are an example of exactly the same thing, only worse, as in these cases they have not addressed the content of the books at all.

Here is a little list of the qualities of books compared to persons:

Persons Books

Hair Color Spine Appearance Hair Style Title Height/Weight Length/Weight Hair Length Page Size Eye Color Binding Color Beauty Paper Quality Breeding Catalog Data Manicure Page Layout Nail Polish Font Selection Footwear Binding Material Language Hyphenation Accent Orthography Eyewear Font Size Skin Tone Paper Color/Finish

Believe it or not, most of the comments received in the conversations about these books concentrate on the elements on this list and not on the actual contents of the books.

If a similar conversation were to take place about persons we know, a conclusion would quickly be made that observations were superficial– nothing to do with the actual person, just as the conversations about the books here have nothing to do with the substantive material.

Psychologists and psychiatrists have a name for this fixation on some secondary characteristics as opposed the the primary:

It is called "fetishism."

Of course, with the books under discussion, there is nothing stopping anyone from choosing the exact appearance they find most attractive.

Anyone who complains is obviously just to lazy to made an adjustment.

WHY eBOOKS SHOULD BE MORE THAN JUST eXEROXES

Scans of books are not:

Searchable Quotable Editable Efficient Easy Sources for New Editions or Critical Editions

You can't load scans into word processors, search engines, cut and paste into emails, or edit them, or even correct a typographic error that is quite obvious.

Nevertheless, a few "purists" think that eBooks should see little more improvement over paper books than appearing in computers, without any of the advantages normally given to eBook consideration. . .what these "purists" want is Xerox copies in their computers, and nothing more, other than in the area of cataloging, in which they seem to want more in eBooks than is found in most of the paper source books.

Instead of a new product, a new edition, corrected errors, search capabilities, easy source material for editions yet unmade or even unconsidered, such as a single file with an electronic comparison between multiple editions, they want nothing more than the old editions.

eBooks have the potential to revolutionize publishing, and that is exactly what these "purists" defend against: they want to keep things as much as possible the way they were.

eBooks are being created at a rate alarming to those Xerox afficionados who want as much control over electronic book publishing as The Stationers Guild wanted over paper books when The Gutenberg Press was invented 550 years ago.

This was the kind of control exercises and exorcised by an effort of The Church to maintain complete control over who got to read The Bible, just so The Church could maintain a perfect level of control over interpretation in methods of modern times called "Situational Ethics."

People died at the stake to bring you the right to read in your own home, to create your own editions, to publish the thoughts in your own head.

Remember, under The Stationers, nothing was ever published without their consent and control.

This is the same anti-ideal as is being voiced today by an ever more vocal minority of ivory tower fanatics, who have little more sense than the religious fanatics they deplore via there lip service but emulate in fact.

The Preservation of Errors

Both of these fanatical groups believe in preserving error in their chosen "purist" editions, even though the errors, such as they are, have been acknowledged for centuries.

The interesting part is that most of these errors were the creation of the publishers and missed by the editors, thus not the original words of the authors. Sometimes printers just didn't have enough of the right letters and put in an alternate letter or combination, or even changed words, to make up for the missing letters.

Yet the "purists" would have all these errors preserved in their "purist" editions that no one else would read either because reading with such errors was so distracting or for the simple reason that the "purists" published only for an extremely limited audience, limited by price, by knowledge of what had been published, and by reading difficulty.

When you want everyone to read something you make it easy!

When you don't. . .you make it difficult.

I'm sure most of you have some experience with this.

However, there is one more reason these "purists" want the editions of the future to exactly match the past editions:

The Power Of Authority

The "purists" are the acknowledged masters of old editions and would have to study hard to equally master all of such new editions as might be published.

Thus it is easier for them to apply destructive criticisms to new editions than to actually master them.

However, this doesn't usually last very long. . . .

In the first 50 years of The Gutenberg Press more books in the entire world were published than had ever been created in all of previous recorded history.

The "purists" lost control.

The Church lost control.

The State lost control.

The Commoners learned how to read for the very first time.

The Middle Class was born.

Power shifted from “The Red and the Black” of military and church power politics to the people, and the age of books, and thus of literacy and education was upon us, leading to The Scientific Age, The Age of Democracy. . .eventually to The Industrial Revolution. . . .

All due to The Gutenberg Press.

Before The Gutenberg Press there was not even the concepts required for “Mass Production.”

Before The Gutenberg Press there were no concepts of using metallurgy for purposes other than to pierce each other in wars or to pierce the Earth for planting.

Before The Gutenberg Press there was no concept of publics being able to read.

Before The Gutenberg Press there was no concept of publics being educated.

[See the article entitled:

How Gutenberg Started The Industrial Revolution: How the The Gutenberg Revolution led to The Industrial Revolution]

Modern Education, Worth of the Name?

Modern education seems to be a tool of conformation for an upper class to control the next generation rather than any kind of true educational process.

Learning how to fit in is taught in schools efficiently to 99% of students, yet only 50% learn how to read enough for just the reading of an article such as this, much less for an entire educational process.

[Speaking of the United States educational system]

The evidence for this is that the longer American students stay in school, the farther they fall behind students in a few dozen other countries, some of which are surprising.

As such, is it any wonder that the winners of The National Spelling Bee, and

other similar competition, have recently been home schooled?

85% of Americans get high school degrees.

50% of Americans have trouble reading something like this.

eBooks Have The Power Of “Unlimited Distribution.”

Full text eBooks are simple and small enough for anyone to send to anyone else, much smaller than iPod tunes, so this should come as no surprise to you:

Within the first week of the iPod people wrote programs to read eBooks on iPods, and Apple has announced an iPod that is specifically tailored for eBooks!

Right now there are already a billion Internet users and a billion more are expected by 2010, in just three years.

I predict that half the world population, 3.5 billion. are going to be Internet users by 2020. . .which means more of a chance for literacy and education than ever before.

Right now you can publish a book on the Internet and reach more people than have ever read any book before, and these people are going to triple by 2020.

There is a potential for a revolution in literacy, and for education, in the next few years that would make that olde Gutenberg Revolution seem like just a bump in the road.

Conclusion

So let us not be fooled by those who try to keep eBooks in the same place as paper books, who tell us to limit eBooks to Xerox like scans of their favorite editions, who want a file for a scanned eBook to take many times the space of a file for a full text eBook, who want to eliminate searches and cut and paste quotations from eBooks, and who, most of all, want to eliminate new editions.

Even old editions are being kept under copyright today.

There are ~33 million books under copyright today.

~31 million of them are out of print.

This means that of all the copyright extensions we live in that we have lost ~31 million just so the publishers could try to make a few percent more on the 3% that they printed new copies of this year.

What would the world be like without copyright extension?

Think what our world would be like today without Gutenberg and his Revolution, without The Scientific Revolution, and without Mass Production, without metallurgic revolutions– and most of all without The Industrial Revolution.

Then think what our world would be like without the coming Project Gutenberg Revolution, without a coming Scientific- Technological Revolution, without Neo-Mass Education. . .

and most of all

Think of what our world would be like without Replicators, for THAT is the precedent being set by the limitation of a world of publishing and republishing today!

What will the world be like when everyone COULD have every single item they wanted. . .but it was made illegal!!!

That is what is happening today with eBooks!!!!!!!

Today, for the price of a paper encyclopedia, you can buy, and fill, a new computer with a million books.

This is what they are trying to make illegal. . . .

The History of Publishing

by Michael S. Hart

Inventor of Electronic Books Founder of Project Gutenberg

Publishing as we know it began with Johannes Gutenberg some 555 years ago with the invention of the moveable type printing press.

The Gutenberg Press, as it was called, changed our history as much as any event since the fundamental inventions of language and writing along with fire, the lever, the wheel, agriculture and weaponry.

TIME magazine and a host of others selected Johannes Gutenberg as The Man of the Millennium, due to the effects of his invention, which were great,

indeed, in many ways beyond the world of publishing.

In many ways Gutenberg was responsible for:

Interchangeable Parts Mass Production Industrial Metalurgy Compound Leverage The Renaissance The Scientific Revolution The Industrial Revolution

and today I hope that his namesake, Project Gutenberg, should be equally, if possible, responsible for similar gains in the Third Millennium.

Censorship, the Other Side of the Coin of the Realm of Publishing

Since the very dawn of publishing, one of the most obvious reactions from the power elite has been to stop people from publishing.

Tearing up printing presses, along with legal censorship, has existed all throughout the history of publishing, and it continues in the headlines I see today in the form of publishers such as Google and Yahoo kowtowing to China's tradition of censorship of news and politics, just so they can do do business in the largest national market in the world.

"Situational Ethics" is the newly coined term for such ancient behavior.

Starting with The Catholic Church, arguably the most powerful world force in Gutenberg's world, the publications and censorships of religious views have played a major part in the history of publishing.

Martin Luther, who protested against the misuse of this power, creating a "Protestant Revolution" as a result, might well never have been heard of, had it not been for The Gutenberg Press, as it was his friends who took a copy of his "95 Theses" to the local "Kinko's du Jour" and made copies to be sent to people in other countries. Otherwise it is relatively certain the copies Luther had written himself would have made little difference.

While The Catholic Church didn't know how to deal with Martin Luther in a right here and now immediate sense, they did start committees to look for ways to deal with this new phenomenon, and started the foundation of what we call censorship today.

These traditions continue today via a number of institutions. At the end the last season of South Park, The Catholic League seems to have censored the rebroadcast of the season finale, "Bloody Mary," which lampooned much of The Catholic Church's iconography, and perhaps kept it from appearing, ever again, even in the DVD collections.

This is particularly notable since South Park belongs to Viacom, a larger media corporation than nearly any other in the world.

So, just in recent months, we have seen how media giants are still victim to political and religious censorship pressures, even in the cases of the corporations we rely on for our news and information. As you extend your point of view beyond these last few month, the horizons broaden.

[I should add here that behind closed doors most American journalists and media personalities will freely admit that there is a much larger percent of stories that are never covered due to these pressures than anyone will ever likely realize. Some estimates from these indicate that a one story in three being "pulled" for these reasons is the best estimate.]

This practice officially began, and ended, with the famous or infamous:

"Indices librorum prohibitorum" = "Index of Prohibited Books" = "Index"

and

"Indices expurgatorii" = "Instructions for Purging"

Hence creating the term "Unexpurgated"

In addition, the practice of the rulers was to have translations of books rewritten in a light more favorable to the rulers and with literacy rates so low in their own languages, added to an even lower literacy rate for a foreign language, it was easy to pull the wool over the sheep's eyes.

A quick look at the censorship of Vergil's "De Inventoribus Rerum" shows, among other things, that censorship was rampant after The Gutenberg Press to an unprecedented degree:

Vergil's "De Inventoribus Rerum"

Prohibited Index 1565 Prohibited Index 1627 Prohibited Index 1711

Expurgated Editions Rome 1585 Lyon 1586 Florence 1587

Index Expurgatorius Brisighella 1607 Sandoval 1619 Sotomayor 1640

Expurgated Copies Augsburg Edition 1575 (Basel, Guarinus) Freiburg Edition 1553/55 (Basel, Isingrin/Parcus) Tubingen Edition 1597 (Lyon, Gryphius)

[See dbs.hab.de/Polydorusvergilius/ portal-texte/text_06_e.htm]

Scratching the Surface of the History of Censorship

Obviously this was not the first example of The Catholic Church involving itself with censorship, the goes back to the very founding the The Church via "The Council of Nicea" in 325, when the books of Arius and others are listed as having been ordered to be delivered up and burned on penalty of death, and this was followed by orders of various popes, and ecumenicals, for even more books to be burned.

In 405 Pope Innocent started a list that became known as "The Roman Index of Forbidden Works" labeled "Decretum Gelasianum."

However it was not until 1515 that Pope Leo X issued the Papal Bull named "Inter Sollicitudines," which became:

"The first papal censorial decrees given for the entire Church which was universally accepted. All writings without exception were subjected to censorship."

To bring this story full circle, we should note that in 1520 a Pope Leo X Bull entitled "Exsurge Domine," forbade the writings of Martin Luther and included not only everything he had ever written, but future works at the time yet unwritten.

This is the foundation of various laws prohibiting "prior restraint."

It should be noted that The Vatican Libraries contain many of these in an exclusively secret collection.

Even as late as those who used The Gutenberg Press, people were burned at the stake for publishing prohibited books.

This takes us up to the Inquisition which you are probably familiar with, and we should concentrate here on The History of Publishing rather than a History of Censorship. Suffice it to say that the history of censorship, book burnings, even the burnings of those who preserved such books, even, as in Gutenberg's time, the burning of the authors and publishers, is big beyond comparison when compared to the history of publishing since we saw the advent of The Gutenberg Press.

Censorship. . .or. . .Copyright

One of the best ways to censor anything without being too obvious is that practice we know today as "copyright."

Copyright law was started by yet another large media corporation, perhaps the largest of Johannes Gutenberg's time. . .The Stationers Company.

The Stationers Company and the various Stationers Guilds were examples of multinational corporate structures a millennium before the multinationals of today even invented the term "multinational corporation."

The Stationers and scribes had a virtual monopoly on the written word the likes of which has never been known, and they had it for virtually all of written history. . .if you wanted something written down, you had to hire one of them. . .unless you were one of the 1% elite who knew how to write something yourself, and were willing to spend the time and effort.

One of the most important effects of The Gutenberg Press was that persons outside the power elite finally learned how to read and write; something, I should add, that did not sit well in the stomachs of those who would be more comfortable being the only source of information.

This was the way it was, not just in The Catholic Church, but in walks of life for everyone. . .when something was written down and intended for an audience of the masses, the audiences gathered in a central location, and someone read the words to them. The Catholic Mass wasn't so different an event than a mass meeting in the town square to have the proclamations of the ruler read aloud to the people, sometimes with great fanfare, but the opposite was sometimes also true, where the agents of the ruler would put up posters in the middle of the night, and everyone would awaken to rules that had literally. . .been changed overnight.

Copyright. . .Laws That Change Overnight

When The Stationers Company finally succeeded in have their new copyright law passed after 260 years of dismal failures with Henry VIII, Elizabeth, and all the monarchs of the period from 1449 to 1709, they manage to take the total number of books legally published in the United Kingdom from an estimated 6,000 down to an estimated 600.

9 out of 10 titles simply vanished from the bookshops overnight in a raid on publishing the likes of which had never been seen before.

All of the book burners in history had never removed as many books!

In the 1900's copyrights laws again changed overnight, three times!

Each time the world we live in lost one million such public domain books that could now be placed on the Internet free of charge.

The average copyright went from ~30 years in 1909 to ~95 years in 1998– 89 years in which copyright was extended 65 years leaving only a quarter of that century's output untouched by the new copyright regimes. Only a book published after 1922 can be surely in the U.S. public domain.

Other countries have also extended their copyrights, sometimes in ye old way as did The Stationers Guild, books available in the bookshop one day were made illegal the next day, right now in modern times.

For a more detailed look at "The Five Information Ages" or the copyright laws that were created to stifle them, please see the separate essay.

http://pglaf.org/~hart/

For now, let us just say that there have been five inventions that would have brought information to the masses in unprecedented ways:

The Gutenberg Press Countered by The Statute of Anne, in 1709 The Steam Powered Press Countered by The US Copyright Act of 1831 The Electric Powered Press Countered by The US Copyright Act of 1909 The Xerox Machine Countered by The US Copyright Act of 1976 The Internet/World Wide Web Countered by The US Copyright Act of 1998

Five Information Ages that might have been much more.

How These Copyright Extensions Affect Us Personally

When I was in grade school we studied slavery, believe it or not, and my school was required to see "Gone With The Wind" and "Song Of The South."

Under the copyright laws in place at the time, the longest copyright was allowed to be nearly 57 years. Gone With The Wind was made in 1939, and Song Of The South was made in 1946, so under the copyright law they were made according to, and all contracts and payments made according to, the copyright should have expired by now, and I should be able to send you a copy of both of these movies so you could see what I was REQUIRED to see when I was growing up.

HOWEVER, the current copyright situation is such that, if you take a kid to see a new movie today, or buy them a book, or expose them to any of a host of copyrighted works, that kid, even if only 5 years old today will not have a life expectancy long enough to expect to see the copyright on those works expire.

This is intended to cause a "disconnect" between the past and present to keep

the people in the present from knowing too much about the past.

If you really think this is a result of the profit motive, just look the incomes of these movies up, then tell me that you think another 20 years of re-release of these movies is going to add more than 1-2 percent from what they have already made.

You have to understand that all these copyright extended works were sold in contracts based on 56 year copyrights, and that when Ted Turner could buy Gone With The Wind for a Song Of The South, this was based on a fact that everyone expected the copyrights to expire shortly thereafter.

Only they didn't!

56 years after 1939 was 1995, but Gone With The Wind never expired.

56 years after 1954 was 2000, but Song Of The South never expired.

The truth is that if copyright extensions keep on, as both U.S. Congress and Supreme Court have asserted they can, then Ted Turner's profits on a purchase of thousands of movies will never cease. . .ever.

Now perhaps you can understand that billion dollars Mr. Turner gave as a gift to the United Nations, under whose umbrella operates:

The World Intellectual Property Organization or WIPO, who writes up an awfully lot of the copyright laws we live under.

As "Deep Throat" told Robert Redford and Dustin Hoffman in the movie ads for "All The President's Men". . .

"Follow The Money"

The Current Chapter In The History Of Publishing

More books were published in the first 50 years of "The Gutenberg Press" than in all previous history. . .millions upon millions. . .in a frenzy, a frenzy that was literally impossible before Gutenberg's invention.

Of course, the purists and elitists denied that these were "books" in an obviously traditional sense, but the public ate them up and the literacy rates doubled and redoubled and doubled again.

The same is currently happening with eBooks.

More eBooks will be created in the first 50 years of a Project Gutenberg

public history than were printed in all previous history.

It is well within the realms of possibility that Project Gutenberg could give away a Quadrillion eBooks before 2010 much less in 50th anniversary celebrations from July 4 through August 4, 2021.

Can We Give Away One Quadrillion eBooks Before 2010 ???

We Are Now Trying To Reach 15% of the World's Population

If we can manage to give the average eBook to 15% of the world population, not unthinkable, that would be a grand total of 1 quadrillion eBooks given away.

15% of the world population = ~1 billion people

1 million books to 1 billion people = 1 quadrillion books

For those who hate it when I use large numbers, it still can't be helped when the possibilities are this great.

I simply refuse NOT to mention that we could give out an order of a quadrillion eBooks in the next three years if it is actually staring us in the face.

The current schedule of The World eBook Fair cosponsored by Project Gutenberg and The World eBook Library is:

2006 1/3 Million eBooks 2007 1/2 Million eBooks 2008 3/4 Million eBooks 2009 One Million eBooks

Give those one million eBooks to just 15% of the world:

```
ONE QUADRILLION eBOOKS GIVEN AWAY!!!
```

And that is not even counting Google, Yahoo, The Library of Congress eBook projects, etc., AND, not even counting the last 12 years to make 50 years of eBook history.

There are already one billion people using the Internet, and by then it could easily be two billion, and billions more by 2021.

The possibilities for eBooks today are as staggering for the modern minds as the possibilities of Gutenberg books were for the medieval minds of Johannes Gutenberg's day!

WHO OWNS COPYRIGHTS?

We had a little public discussion recently when several people challenged my statements concerning how many copyrights we had that were owned by corporations rather than by authors.

The trouble with such discussions, and discussions with others who depend on what they research indirectly than what they are able to find out for themselves, is that all that happens is a nattering of people who are each quoting some source they have no real connection with, “Throwing clods at clods,” as my Dad, may he rest in peace, used to say.

However, as luck would have it, today I bought a set of books, more or less by accident at the garage sales, that contained a half dozen by Mark Twain/ Samuel Clemens that demonstrate these discussions are little more than hot air when the discussions, such as they are, are only people talking about authorities or scholars rather than the actual reality of the situation.

This set of half a dozen books published in the 1800’s showed, that even for such a remarkable person as Twain/Clemens that a deal with the publishers was hard, even impossible to make for him to make, without selling out his copyrights.

In fact, it would appear that several different situations for Twain/Clemens interfered with his copyrighting his works, as a family member is listed for one copyright while his publisher, whom I won’t name, as they are still in business, got a few in their name. I’m not refusing to name them for any legal issue other than that I don’t want to draw attention to those whom I despise, just as I do not mention those who brought up a silly nonsense set of arguments that corporations do not force their writers to hand over their copyrights, or no contract.

If someone such as Mark Twain/Samuel Clemens had to bow to the pressures of forced copyrights in the name of the publishers– then what chance would/ could/should we expect the writers with more modest offerings might have had.

I prefer to do my own direct research, rather than to rely for support on experts and scholars who also do indirect research. I own these books from well over 100 years ago, and I am not a person who thus has to rely on the opinions of anyone else for this particular issue.

In fact, this recalls this issue when one of the participants, still with us, in a similar discussions about whether I was on the Internet via the Xerox Sigma V computer, at the U Illinois Materials Research Laboratory when I put the

first of what was to become the Project Gutenberg electronic library online.

What that person stated as “FACT” turned out simply to be some list prepared by someone who was not there that they read.

Reading a list of computers on the Internet decades ago should not be confused with the direct experience of those who really were there, were really swapping emails across the continent– and most particularly–were really posting the first files for free download that would start the eBook revolution.

As I say to all those who would overly rely on expert/scholars:

“DON’T CONFUSE THE MAP WITH THE TERRITORY!”

There is reality on the one hand, and reports of reality on the other hand. . .two totally different things.

Of course, from your own individual points of view, you may not know one of us from the other, other than in one case a person, also to remain unnamed, admittedly was not there, but only read a list and then claimed that list as “FACT,” while another says they were actually there.

Who would YOU believe?

Someone who admits to reading a list made second hand without a visit to each of the computers in question. . .what is it their legal definitions call it. . .”hearsay?“. . .but in this case a case of”double hearsay” when we hear from one person who got a report from another person.

I was there, and I own these Twain/Clemens books, I do not need to ask someone else in these cases, other than to confirm those facts if I should so choose. This is not a case of hubris, but simply a case where I don’t need to rely on second hand report, or third hand, as the case may be.

Conclusion

Don’t believe what people tell you is fact, look it up yourself to make up your own mind.

The louder someone yells “FACT” the more it should be confirmed by several independent sources.

The trouble is that the extremists have recently become good at muddying up the waters via semantic differences, misquotations, changing the subject, etc.

The subject here is aways how to get the most eBooks to readers all over the world.

Everything else is just a distraction.

In this case, the history of copyright is rampant with examples of just how much those who promote copyright are willing to say and do to remove rights from both authors AND public domain.

Mark Twain/Samuel Clemens is but one single example of millions of people who have lost their rights under copyright pressures, readers and writers alike.

We have recently seen lawsuits won by groups of authors who had their copyrights violated via electronic reprints, anthologies, etc., that were not specifically sold to their publishers.

However, without such large groups to foot the million dollars' legal bills, or without millions of your own dollars to spend– even someone such as Mark Twain had to sell out to publishers.

Every copyright law pushes as far as possible to eliminate such rights as readers and writers have, from the first failed laws, such as I refer to elsewhere as "The Statute of Mary," to those most recent changes known as "The Mickey Mouse Copyright Act."

Copyright was invented solely as a reactionary political move a group called "The Stationers Guild" created to regain monopoly, once they had lost it to The Gutenberg Press.

It took 250 years of failures on their part, but finally effort proved too much for Queen Anne, after it was rebuffed by Queens and Kings of England from before Henry VIII to post Elizabeth.

The Stationers understood one thing:

You can lose for hundreds of years.

You only have to win. . .once.

After The Statute of Anne, nearly every new government added in their own version of the same law, right down to the numbers of years for each term of copyright.

Today's copyright laws are direct descendants of fierce lobbies over centuries by a group of people who simply would not admit, for better or worse, that

their monopoly over publishing ended, with a bang, with the invention of The Gutenberg Press.

Today's US laws were lobbied in by The Disney Corporation and a descendant of The Stationer's Guild known as WIPO, descended as a modern corporation from the earlier European publishers union efforts to spread copyrights in the 1800s.

Little has changed in the ways copyright laws are written, each one is written by the publishers long before it is laws written by governments around the world.

From the modern US Supreme Court case of my friend Eric Eldred, who took my place when I realized the case was doing more harm, and no good at all, who will tell you that the Disney corporate suits were front and center while he was relegated, literally– to the back of the bus–to the original failed copyrights of an utterly distraught Stationers Guild, the publishers openly show themselves as the source of the copyright laws. No disinterest on their parts, they are the actual plaintiffs or defendants of these cases, whether named or not, and they don't hide it.

Where is The World Public Domain Office, or the United States?

There are countless copyright offices to create monopolies from one end of the world to the other for publishers, but where are the offices to protect the public domain?!?!?!?!?!

01/01/06 predict.06 [Please send me suggestions for more] [Added comment about Libya and Venezuela on May 16]

PREDICTIONS FROM JANUARY 1, 2006

The greatest prediction I can make at the moment is that the now infamous ".com boom" of the United States should shortly be reflected in a new ".com boom" of the entire world.

As some of you may recall, my predictions for the .com boom, as far is the US went, were that no one would pay attention, and they would think they could keep doubling their markets, again, and again, and again, even after they had crossed the 50% saturation level that means you can never double again.

Duh!

If the .com "billionaires," my friends among them, had quite simply realized

that once the US got near 50% of the market, that it was time to start selling and get into a new market, then they would still have their billions.

Today the world Internet market share is about 1/6 of people in the world population, but that includes 3/4 in the US and about 1/11 China. . .a vast difference.

For those who think in terms of Globalization, there is none better in the current stack of opportunities that to work up a Global ".com boom" complete with a "World Today" newspaper just like the "USA Today" newspaper that came out when their technology advanced to the point of making newspapers HERE & then sending the printing instructions THERE.

Probably some time around a year from now the world realizes that the "S" curve of world growth has hit the same point on the curve as when the US .com boom took off, and that entire world Internet population growth is going to be massive in a period of growth from 25% to 75%, and that billions and even trillions of dollars can be made if their cards play right.

•

In the shorter term predictions I have:

1 Million Full Text Free Downloadable eBooks in 2009

Terabyte Drive Boxes Become Commonplace Before 2009

Medical Industry Will Undergo Oil Type Growth Investigations As The Profit-Taking and Executive Compensation Are Revealed

I can't stress enough, even at this late date, keep your eye on China and India. . .I've been saying this for years and I continue to put it at the top of the list of world events.

Expect to see more oil-related politicking, such as the news of simultaneous Carrots for Libya and Sticks for Venezuela.

Also expect the oil companies to keep putting down alternate energy plans, other than nuclear power plants. No one wants to see a land dotted with windmills. . .how ugly!

Photoelectric grids will once again double in efficiency but the prices will still be astronomical.

3-D Printing, Rapid Prototyping, and Replicator Technologies will grow like crazy, but will the media never mention them? Why, because the media has a

vested interest in advertising, so anything that does not generate advertising or ratings is not going to be covered. Why do you think the media gave it billion dollars worth of coverage as Google invented eBooks, but have not given 1% of that coverage to the nearly million eBook files already out there in full text?

Money?

Speaking of money, I predict the continuation of what I call “Mega-Merger-Mania” even if the Democrats are back in power.

Mega-Merger-Mania is the response to Big Business with a new Bigger Business to the point of Biggest Business.

There are now dozens of corporate structures larger, richer, and more powerful than 90% of the nations in the world: and this trend is going on as the rich continue to get richer as the poor continue to get poorer on local, regional, national and on international scales.

You’ll see billions and billions of dollars heading off from everywhere to land in the corporate coffers of international mega-corporations from even the poorest countries. Examples in the recent limelight are Exxon, and Halliburton, Cheney’s corporate interest, but those are just the tip of an iceberg armada that could sink a feel of Titanics.

However, don’t expect the media to report corporate warfare, or even national economic warfare, as has resulted in recent resolutions passed by national parliaments not to extend the copyright terms when pressured by the Big Boys, only to fall under the foot of the economic elephant in the middle of the international room that no one talks about.

Why don’t you hear about this?

Because the media, and their advertisers, live on copyright.

-

However, there ARE limits, as will be seen as book publisher monopolies reach their economic peak power point, and slide, slide, slide, as people refuse to continue paying 40 times a publisher’s initial price for paperbacks.

I just bought a copy of Animal Farm, by George Orwell and it says $7.98 as the US price, and I am sure that with research any of you can find editions that say $.50.

In 1955 the average price of a paperback was $.25.

In 2005 the average price of a paperback was $7.98.

And I am not even counting those ridiculous high priced, new paperback types in the range between “mass market” & “trade” paperbacks that have now wiped out, totally eliminated older editions that used to be priced at $.25 & $.50.

I still remember the first $.95 paperback, and how they said it would never sell back in 1957, a "sequel of sorts" to the$.75 predecessor by the same author. The same author had an assortment of books out, priced as little as $.50, but now a $10 barrier has been reached with “mass market” paperbacks & the new “trade” editions are taking over, double the price.

Of course, I’m also not counting the cheapy paperbacks for a kids market, really not much more than coloring books.

However, all in all, I think you’ll find that the paperbacks today that were $.25 in 1955 are going to cost $7 to $9 from Erle Stanley Gardner’s Perry Mason Mysteries, to the Jessica Fletcher Murder She Wrote Mysteries, but obviously not Hardy Boys and Nancy Drew Mysteries, just to cover mystery books.

However, I as mentioned above, I think this has maxxed out– and that you’ll hear, or not hear if the media doesn’t want, that the book industry has peaked, and is now failing.

-

So, you are NOT hearing about freely downloadable eBooks for everyone to own, but you ARE hearing about Google’s eBooks– which are not available in catalogues, not always available, period, particularly for download, and not even eBooks by an earlier standard set by The Library of Congress stating that eBooks should be proofread at least to a 99.5% accuracy.

As you may have heard, the Project Gutenberg volunteers, and particularly the Distributed Proofreaders, have taken 99.5%, and replaced it with ever higher standards to the point when a recent study tried to pick out the 1% least accurate books and improve these, but a professional proofreader was unable to find any that were even 99.75% accurate. However, all of the Project Gutenberg library is continually being improved, in terms of accuracy, cataloguing, format selection, etc.

-

These are some of my predictions for the near future.

Please let me know if you have more topics to suggest!

Thanks!!!

How Much Editing?

I've been going over some of our previous conversations about editing, and just realized that we don't have any estimation for the following:

1.

What percentage of words gets changed during the editing process?

This could be for books, articles, essays, journal reports, etc.

Individual reports or averages are both welcome.

1.

What percentage of works actually need professional editing?

I am beginning to wonder if those who were saying that editing is some kind of absolutely necessary process to have done professionally meant something more like necessary in 99% of case, 95% of cases, 90%, etc.

•

I should make my own point of view clear:

My own objection to the traditional publishing procedures is monopoly: meaning that virtually 100% of the published materials anyone read for all previous history had to pass thru tests of worthiness, censorship, profitability, readability, etc., of the publishing professions from a pre-historic set of scribes, to the historic monopolies of Stationers, through to the listings of Books In Print and Ingram, etc.

However, the written works that changed the world did not go through a publisher's hands:

1.

Martin Luther's 95 Theses: toppled the Catholic monopoly.

[I wonder how many Protestants realize that name Protestant comes from a

letter of protest to the Roman Catholics, signed by Lutheran princes along with “the leaders of 14 free cities.”] [Encarta]

1.

Isaac Newton’s fundamental physics discoveries: toppled the physics a whole world had known.

[Written at home, while Cambridge was shut down due to a plague.]

1.

Albert Einstein’s great papers on Relativity, the nature of space-time and, of course E = mc2.

[All the original works were written after he was tossed out of school and was working in the Swiss Patent Office. Eventually the school did figure out how important these works were, and gave him a degree based on these papers]

1.

The Ancient Greek and Roman classics, or Shakespeare, Dante, Donne and Chaucer, etc., etc., etc.

[Have we had anyone like them since the publishing industry took over]

My point on the relationship of the world of eBooks to the world of an established publishing industry is that the author CAN communicate via DIRECT communication with the world at large, without any intermediary whatsoever, NOT that the authors MUST communicate without intermediary middlemen as provided in the traditional publishing business plan.

This my exception is with those who say that editors or publishers and all that comes with them is a REQUIREMENT for anything worth reading.

I would like to think there is room for other options in the hearts or minds of the editing and publishing world.

The funny thing about this conversation is that much of it has pursued comments from the independent [“indie”] publishers, who occupy a place that appears between the traditional publishing empires and the eBooks that provide a possible means for authors’ more direct contact with an audience that might not be provided by traditional publishers.

The traditional publishers seem to regard the independant publisher in much

the same way the independent publisher regards eBook authors, who are bypassing the independent publishers in much the same way as those independent publishers are bypassing the traditional large publishers.

IN DEFENSE OF PROJECT GUTENBERG

Project Gutenberg offers everyone their opportunities “to paint on our canvas, with our paints and brushes: but what we haven’t offered them is an opportunity to paint over all that others have painted in 35 years.”

Introduction of June 15, 2006

Most people would think that a project to create and hand out free books of general interest to the world at large may have little to worry about in the way of attacks, but I assure you that each and every year we get strong messages from those in opposition to what we are doing.

They adamantly tell us that we are doing eBooks all wrong and should let them decide how eBooks should be done; and a list, several lists now, of their complaints and demands are below, along with specific answers to each one.

In return, we offer them all our resources to assist them for the purpose of setting up a site for examples of their eBooks to show the world, along with an opportunity to place a blurb in our Project Gutenberg Newsletters, seeking our volunteers, espousing their new eBook standards, even pointing to sites a person might have of their own.

Very rarely do any of these accept our offers, they seem to a person to have a preference for telling us what to do, rather than to actually doing it themselves, even if only to a point of providing a few dozen samples to show the world what their new eBook standards would look like in practice: even though most of these new standards would take only a 1% total change from the eBook already produced to match these new standards.

It’s really amazing sometimes to see a person with at least a thin veneer of rationality tell us that without their changes the eBooks are worthless, but would be incredibly valuable if we would only make those 1% of changes they recommend.

This is a collection of responses to these attacks I provided as a sort of FAQ [Frequently Asked Questions] for those I saw having some difficulties with current such messages.

Introduction of June 14, 2006

This is a series of responses to various attacks made year in and year out by a handful of people who would take over eBook standards and practices that are too loosely held as per more rigid points of view.

My own view as the one who started all this is that we should keep as open a mind as possible and resist the temptations of those who would prefer we become more elitist in structure.

There is room for nearly everyone in Project Gutenberg, and I include those who have attempted various takeovers and should continue their efforts in the future.

Those people keep us aware of the potential futures of eBooks and we continue to offer them their own resources on servers, newsletters, etc., copyright research, etc., to enhance their own ideas and ideals of how eBooks should be.

In most cases it is obvious that these people would prefer to blow hot air at the situation for years without actually some real example of a dozen or so eBooks being created to start a new possible pattern in eBook production or distribution.

A happy counterexample to that is the recent addition of cell phone eBooks to our collection by John Mizzi.

•

Note: This portion added as we approach 20,000 eBooks by the counts that do not include the 100 eBook collections donated through The Project Gutenberg Consortia Center.

Several people would prefer not to allow various editions and various formats of eBooks to be counted in Project Gutenberg, but the truth is that as per our Mission Statement:

“To Encourage The Creation And Distribution Of eBooks”

it is our duty to encourage new editions and formats, as much as is commensurate with our standards of 99.95% accuracy, and a few other standards such as copyright research etc, and not to spend too much time stating what is NOT Project Gutenberg, and shooing away other potential donors of eBooks.

I make no claims that Project Gutenberg is perfect for any of the various aspects of eBooks we represent, and never have.

Project Gutenberg is a PROCESS.

eBooks do not have to achieve even our 99.95% accuracy levels before being accepted into the PrePrints Section, and certain more strict standards will be applied before they leave these PrePrint areas to reside in main collection. In addition the PrePrints items may be eligible for inclusions in the Project Gutenberg Consortia Center collections, which have a standard separate from that of the main collection and which fulfilled all the requirements for a Project Gutenberg site in 2003.

When in doubt err on the side of our other Mission Statements

“Give The Most eBooks To The Most Possible People”

and

“Help Break Down The Bars Of Ignorance And Illiteracy.”

Keeping track of which eBooks should be allowed into sections of which kind, and how and if they should be catalogued is an exercise that all too often is used to keep others out of the ranks of Project Gutenberg, so let’s be clear on this:

Project Gutenberg was designed to make it easy for persons to give eBooks to the world at large.

Our history has been to accept 98-99% of all propositions for the addition of new eBooks, new formats, new experimentations and all the other things that might, just might, lead to some increase in the accomplishment of our goal of bringing eBooks to the world at large.

Having said all that: let me continue to be one of the first to say that the 99.95% accuracy Library of Congress level has been in effect for well over a decade, and it is time to move to a higher level of accuracy, perhaps 99.75% or 99.95%.

June, 2006

-

This next portion is from an online discussion on May 14, 2006

It illustrates quite well some of the situations I refer to.

#1 says that this is where we part company, [only #1 never seems to actually part company with us] trying to tell us what Project Gutenberg

should be doing. [#1 also frequently denies telling us what to do, or that any kind of takeover of Project Gutenberg is intended.]

#2 reminds #1 that Project Gutenberg was already well founded before #1 ever came upon the scene.

[This entire conversation is a response to a renewed attempt to force Project Gutenberg into a certain mold of eBooks and to then force all Project Gutenberg volunteers into that mold.]

#1 says that Project Gutenberg eBooks should be "authentic" to an original paper edition, but admits that deciding what is an authentic edition might be problematic.

#2 reminds us that this topic has been discussed ad nauseum, by #1 and a few others, on previous occasions.

#2 then describes me as an artist painting on the canvas of technology of society at large, then invites others who have different artistic views to make their own paintings.

I remind all concerned that Project Gutenberg has offered #1 many times over:

"to paint on our canvas, with our paints and brushes, but what we haven't offered them is an opportunity to paint over all that others have painted in 35 years."

[This is a reference to the fact that everyone is welcome to create their own version of Project Gutenberg and with the resources of Project Gutenberg at their disposals, so they won't have to bear the cost in terms if time, effort and money of setting up their own such systems. We get a number of suggestions each year, telling us how we should do eBooks in some other way that would work much better– and we offer each one of these our resources, not only to put up a test site to house the first few dozen examples, but also space in our Newsletter to attract attention for volunteers to help with the new project, and then to host the whole project for them at our expense if it takes off and grows even larger than the original Project Gutenberg site has become. We encourage all such projects as per a Mission Statement:

"To Encourage The Creation And Distribution Of eBooks"

We even went to Google exactly a year before their big PR blitz of December 14, 2004, and answered all their eBooks questions for hours, but obviously they didn't take these comments much to heart.

Nevertheless, we do encourage, “Creation And Distribution Of eBooks” every chance we get, no matter what formats or whether the proposed operation is commercial or nonprofit or any mixture of the two.

The point of this particular section is that we try to do everything we can:

“To Get The Most eBooks To The Most People”

no matter who is doing it or how.

However, it becomes only too obvious in these discussions that many of the people talking to us are really trying a takeover attempt of the eBook world at large, and want to delete all other eBooks and replace them with their own.

This is why we invite them:

“to paint on our canvas, with our paints and brushes, but what we haven’t offered them is an opportunity to paint over all that others have painted in 35 years.”

-

Note:

Next portion added in response to various FlameBait comments, made circa May 8, 2006

The portion below that is from May 28, 2004. Somehow it seems that springtime is when a lot of these take place.

The original portions, not cited here, were to those messages starting in the second half of March, 2003, similar flames to the same points, from person #1.

These replies are posted here as opposed to on the listservs, due to an ever growing culture of political censorship.

Those Who Try to Put eBooks On The Defensive

Interestingly enough about half of the messages that required the most defensive remarks about eBooks have been from people who profess to LOVE eBooks, and the other half have been from who seem to HATE eBooks, and the reasons are as widely varied as are the senders.

The Complainers

The complainers, and their complaints, as mentioned below, do fall into the two major categories mentioned above.

First let us toss out the gadflies: those who would complain just for the sake of drawing attention to themselves when the truth is that they are making little enough contribution to a new world of eBooks. These same people complain: year after year after year, and the lists they complain on have now come to the obvious conclusion that they are just making noise and tell them so immediately on receiving such messages.

Some say that no one should reply to the messages at all, but others feel that the new readers who have not seen previously posted similar complaints over the years should be warned for the sake of saving them from encouraging such “flaming.”

The Complaints

1. Not enough eBooks/Too Many eBooks
2. Not enough like the original paper editions.
3. Not in the format/font/margins/pagination I want.
4. Not in the colors I want.
5. Not an accurate count of how many eBooks there are: what about duplicate copies, etc., when eLibraries combine.

Quick Answers

1. Not enough eBooks/Too Many eBooks

I am frequently teased that I didn’t produce enough eBooks to give to the world sooner than I did.

This is obviously by people who don’t know the limitations of the computers and the networks of the times.

I lobbied long and hard just to get the space for the files I did get online back in the 1970’s, and the U.S. Constitution, for example, was turned down over and over again, until there was such a big stink during the 1976 U.S. Bicentennial that a copy was finally allowed to be posted for online downloads.

However, this was the exception rather than the rule for that period of computer history, and my statements that we must do all the great classics

including Shakespeare's Complete Works were ridiculed to the extreme, even by those who were helping me the most in getting Project Gutenberg started.

Of course, there was some logic to this, as our computers had 5 megabyte hard drives, and a complete Shakespeare is larger, not to mention that just one download of such a file would be enough to bring the fledgling Internet to its knees.

On the other hand, there have always been those who said only the elite scholars should have access to eBooks, and the rest of us should have to "do it the hard way." Among these are a choice few who believe that Project Gutenberg's efforts to do "Unlimited Distribution" of entire libraries is "tatamount to casting pearls before swine."

The fact is, and a great defense of eBooks it is, is that the eBOOKS HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO VALUE UNLESS SOMEONE USES THEM!!!

1. Not enough like the original paper editions.

This is the same argument that has been used against the very inventions that make up our modern world. The same thing was said about Gutenberg's original publications, about steel and glass skyscrapers, the automobile, the airplane or everything in between.

"FORM FOLLOWS FUNCTION!"

What need does an eBook have for; page headers, page footers, page numbers, end-of-line-hyphenation, footnotes on the pages they refer to, illustrations interrupting text, etc?

There are no pages in eBooks. . .other than by fabrication.

Each person should be allowed to choose their own favorites: fonts, margin size, screen size, background/foreground colors and all the other settings and options.

However, I should add that some people I love and respect had just the opposite opinion, and think that these variable NOT! be the choices of the reader, but of the publisher, who needs to be able to determine the "look and feel" of the eBook.

Personally, *I* am the sort of reader who does not even "see" the page, but rather I "see" the characters and the action.

1. Not in the format/font/margins/pagination I want.

As above, sorry I got carried away and answered ahead.

1. Not in the colors I want.

As above, sorry I got carried away and answered ahead.

However, I leave these questions in this order because I have received SO many complaints about each one of these points.

1. Not an accurate count of how many eBooks there are: what about duplicate copies, etc., when eLibraries combine.

During the recent conversation on this topic, I sent this:

As I usually do when confronted by such statements as:

“Most libraries won’t waste space and budget on duplicate books.”

I simply checked with my own library a few blocks down the street.

They tell me that at least 10% of their orders for books are sent in for multiple copies of the same edition of the same book.

As others have mentioned, you will obviously get duplications for more books when combining the collections of multiple libraries.

However, one should also be aware that most libraries count those separate editions as separate titles, not to mention large print, audio books, and other editions that contain the same works.

Obviously it would be fairly easy to claim a million eBooks in an effort of similar cataloging rules if you had just 100,000 books, and presented each one in 10 formats.

[snip]

Our policy has always been to list the same books from different sources as individual editions and then often to reconcile those editions into what is known as a “critical edition” of sorts.

However, unless there are special circumstances, just putting an eBook into a new format would not get it another entry, as would be included in a library with several hardback, paperback, trade editions, along with large print, audiobooks, or those tinted in that supposedly easy-to-read green coloration. Each of those in a bricks and mortar library would get its own entry.

•

Cataloguing a library is a LOT of work, and while I spend hot hours counting and recounting the book production of the four Project Gutenberg sites I report on in each weekly Newsletter for our readers along with a lot of other statistics, I can't keep track of other sites I don't have such direct access to, and have to rely on information from their operators which is often just an estimate, as they don't have time to count, and recount, either, when their top priority is getting the books out there. . ."The Most Books To The Most Readers."

If you call a library and ask how many total books they have, their response is usually just an estimate as well, and might include multiple copies of new best selling editions that are in high demand, as well as large print editions, audio books, and all sorts of other items that other might not include.

The truth is that many of the early eLibraries, "padded their bibliographies," by doing such things as counting each one of the AEsop's Fables as a catalog entry while Project Gutenberg did just the opposite and posted their eBook #100 as just one single listing of The Complete Works of William Shakespeare.

Only after many years of requests from people who wanted some particular play or poem, and nothing else, were the works cut into separate volumes for each play or major poem and one for the complete sonnets. The first editions of the Bible were a similar example, and Project Gutenberg could easily have said twice as many volumes were in the early collections simply by claiming each of these two examples as 50+ volumes each.

If there is anything I have learned in my 35 years of working with the publication of eBooks, it is that whatever you do it will not please everyone, which is one reason I try NOT to do all the specific choosing for our readers. The are not free, just free, to do what they want with Project Gutenberg eBooks BUT they are ENCOURAGED to make these eBooks over in whatever ways they see fit. . .including making their own catalogs, as a number of prominent library professionals have done, with a huge blessing and many thanks!

Any time anyone suggests a new way of counting eBooks we have offered them all the encouragement and site support possible, but none of them seem to want to do more than to complain and we understand only too well that people do not complain about services they are not interested in.

A More Detailed Explanation

Startup

For the first 17 years I worked on eBooks I literally got not one single response about them, other than that I was a crazy person to think that anyone would ever want books as computer files for any purpose whatsoever; even my closest friends and those who helped me the most were included.

I got my first positive response around 1988-1989, during the first "Age of the Internet" when the number of Internet users first passed 1/4 million and there were finally enough people to have a discussion about nearly anything, including eBooks, as it turned out.

As a result I started up the first Project Gutenberg listserv program to discuss eBooks, which rapidly rose to the top of a number of lists of the best and most popular listservers.

The next 17 years, bringing us pretty much up to date, were a logarithmic growth pattern that still surprises people today. [Examples on request]

The Complainers

Those who complain the most about eBooks are of two varieties as I see it:

1. Those who want eBooks to ONLY be the way THEY want them.

2. Those who want ONLY paper books.

I often feel very much attacked by those who love my work the very most, as they are so fanatical about eBooks that they do not realize their own preferences and desires are outside the realm of the attention of the normal reader, and it is normal readers, and perhaps even sub-normal readers, that are my own "designated drivers" of where eBooks should be going. My own goal is to increase general levels of literacy and education, throughout the entire world. The goals of so many who attack seem to be to aim eBooks specifically at the most learned and the most scholarly, not just without attention to the masses, but even saying that presenting the masses with such editions is tatamount to "casting pearls before swine."

I see my own role in the world of eBooks as Johnny Appleseed, carrying the seeds that will grow into worldwide orchards for everyone to benefit from, not just one particular country, or class of people. When I receive messages from people who say they wouldn't have ever found that book or read that book, if not for Project Gutenberg, I know I have reached my audience.

This is NOT to say that I am not VERY appreciate of the facts gleaned from

Project Gutenberg for “The da Vinci Code,” which acknowledges our assistance right up there with “The Louvre,” “The Bibliotheque National,” “The Gnostic Society Library,” & “The Catholic World News, Royal Observatory Greenwich, London Record Society, the Muniment Collection at Westminster Abbey, John Pike and the Federation of American Scientists,” etc.

That is QUITE a list in which to be included, particularly at a spot very near the top of the list, so I am quite pleased– it is not that often that one’s work is acknowledged in books that top the best seller lists for years of one’s lifetime.

However I would GLADLY give up the 40 million acknowledgement pages in those books just to give eBooks to 40 million more– if you know what I mean.

My goal is to change the world from the bottom up, not from a “trickle down” theory of Voodoo economics.”

This does NOT endear me to the elitists and the scholarly who would prefer NOT to have any competition from peanut galleria types they wouldn’t deign to notice on the street.

Me, I prefer my audience to BE those people on the street.

More About The Complaints

The greatest number of complaints about eBooks are from those who want there to be no difference between eBooks and paper.

These people want there to be page breaks and page numbers in a medium that doesn’t HAVE pages, not to mention page footers and page headers, where they appear.

These people want there to be specifically chosen fonts in an eBook medium where anyone COULD choose their own fonts.

Sometimes these people go so far as to insist on end-of-lines hyphenation in a medium that doesn’t lose any extra paper for the publisher if you don’t cram as many words per line into a book as is humanly possible.

Still others try to specify the color of the “page” when this could easily be specified by the reader, along with the font.

And, of course, there are those [sic] fellowes who determined that any errors in the original editions should be continued, as “canonical errors” in all

future editions, even if or when those errors were introduced by the editors, proofreaders, or typesetters, and never appeared in the original manuscript.

This, in my estimation, is one of the strangest complainings, as the editors probably made a thousand changes from author's manuscript pages in an average book, yet any error they might have introduced are is now gospel.

By the way, I know where this originated, and the cause of it was eliminated with the advent of The Gutenberg Press, so the holier-than-thou approach to such error preservation is quite out of date.

Unless you are quoting pre-Gutenberg works.

The Middlemen

There is ONLY ONE STANDARD for measuring a book's success:

how well it communicates from the author to the reader.

Everything else is the work of an army of middlemen.

Cover art Advertising Blurbs Editing Layout Fonts Etc.

and those middlemen get paid if the book sells or does not.

Only the author and publisher get more or less out of sales.

The rest is just gilding the lily, so to speak.

Before I go on, I should add that some of my good friends are editors, proofreaders, etc. in the publishing industry, but I am not interested in that sort of thing except in one case:

Where the meaning of the author can be clarified, by choosing different words, grammar, punctuation, etc.

Sometimes the author does NOT want an idea clarified.

Sometimes they want the reader to WORK to get the meanings.

However once you starting putting this army of people BETWEEN yourself and the author, you start having to wonder which the words belong to.

If you gave the same book to a hundred different publishers– you would never get the same book twice–a thousand different changes would occur between one publisher and the next.

So why this religious prostration before words that have been changed a thousands times by the publishers?

Because the publishers rule!

When you said that I sounded defensive in one of my messages, when we talked last Thursday, that stuck in my head, and I've been thinking about it quite a bit, with a lot of the results I'm including below, trying to find where the points are that we can follow up on in agreement.

Of course, I think there ARE things to be defensive about, so I'm including some of those, too.

In the main, I think that liberals never fight as hard as the conservatives do, pretty much anywhere in the world today. I wonder what differences between now and the 1770's-1780's may be that would/could create this. It would certainly appear a lot of conservatives, reactionaries, and fascists have done a HUGE amount in the last century and the only responses were a set of defensive ones. . .and defense on the spot, not for an historical perspective, even an historical perspective rooted in a single spot such as the Maginot Line.

The point is that the people who are trying to take over this project are playing hardball, while we are playing softball– perhaps not to offend the very people we try to protect. The hardball actions are included in my thoughts below.

These people make no bones that one way to achieve their goal would be to take over the Board of Directors by stacking with lawyers and millionaires. [BTW, I obviously feel comfortable to an even lesser degree with Steve Harris than before.]

This approach of taking over the Board is hardball, there can be no room left for any power for anyone else, and any bit or piece thrown to us by such a stacked board would be only more for show that they hadn't killed us off completely, than some idealistic point of view.

Once such a board is in place there would be no turning back, not only on political grounds, but since their avowed ticket, such as it is, is aiming straight at making Project Gutenberg dependent on money, thus creating the twin impenetrables that support their takeover: political power and money.

However defensive it may sound, we must answer that political power and money are NOT among our primary goals, and that our unwillingness to exercise political power isn't an invitation to others to exercise it.

We must state our goal of individual and group freedom within Project Gutenberg as a positive value for growth, not as mere responses in a defensive posture. . .as a value we have held, not just for years, but for decades, that is primary to great cooperative efforts, as opposed to great efforts run by power politics. We must point out that NONE of these proposals has been about making eBooks, perhaps even point out that persons making these proposals have intentionally stopped production, using the term mutiny to describe these actions.

Obviously these people think that making eBooks is secondary, and taking political and financial control is primary, and as much as said in plain words.

We must state that there IS no political or financial gain to be had in Project Gutenberg; Project Gutenberg was DESIGNED a long time ago just so there would NOT be these kinds of power to attract potential takeovers. We might also mention that a number of takeover attempts have been launched in the past on both political and financial grounds, and that they didn't do even enough to leave a ripple in the historical record.

HOWEVER, we should also add that we recognize that many of an astonishingly wide range of volunteers would prefer organized control over the production process of a stronger nature, and that such structure is a blessing for those who want/need it, but that we must leave room for other kinds of structure, for those for whom the proposed structures might not fit. Again, we should mention that these proposals don't really structure anything to do with the production of eBooks, merely for some kind of power over such production and distribution, and some kind of financial power, even to the point of including dues.

Since Project Gutenberg is famous for FREE eBooks it may seem somewhat contradictory to CHARGE FEES TO MAKE THEM.

My own interpretation of the proposed dues is that this would simply be a means of elevating Project Gutenberg from a total status of "anyone can join" to a status requiring membership, significant dues, and all that comes with them.

Project Gutenberg has never been about bureaucracy, and never will be.

Project Gutenberg has never been about financial concerns, and never will be.

Project Gutenberg has never been about political power, and never will be.

Now, having said that, if we ever SAY it, there will be small chance of anyone not realizing that such takeover attempts in the future violate the founding premises of Project Gutenberg.

Project Gutenberg has never been about political power, and never will be.

Project Gutenberg would rather lead by example than by edict, or decree, or bylaws.

The Project Gutenberg Board of Directors is not political and never has been; they would never say the primary goals of the project are money or political, nor do they want to hand over financial or political control to those who do.

Not wanting political or financial power is not a weakness or a sign of a power vacuum. . .it is a sign of idealism.

Project Gutenberg should be run by idealism, not by finances, politics, or any other power structure.

Those who would use their political power to reduce the eBook production obviously are not people who have eBook production as their primary goal. We must get back to eBook production, that is our root, our strength, our cause of existence; these other things are only distractions.

The Counting of Project Gutenberg eBooks

Several people have questioned how we count Project Gutenberg eBooks, from counting the individual collection to the possible grand totals.

Some say that we should have counted more books, such as eBooks #100, #10, and the like, which were The Complete Works of Shakespeare, etc. but we only counted them as a single book because we received single book volumes as their source material.

Some say that we should have counted less books, such as eBooks #100, #10 and the like, which were eventually re-released via an individual book per play, etc., due to requests from our readers to be get plays one at a time, or books of the Bible one at at time.

My own personal choice was to release larger and larger books as just single volumes and single entries to counteract the policies of eBook providers who did what I called “padding their bibliographies” by the process of listing every single one of AEsop’s Fables in their count.

However, as we received more and more requests to make Shakespeare or

the Bible available play by play and book by book, it became more and more obvious that our readers wanted to be able to just download that one particular play of “Hamlet,” or that one book of the Bible.

In other instances we have done just the opposite, as with the latest DVD image we have made available for downloading. It contains eBooks from other sources than Project Gutenberg, but until we have these in individual downloadable formats, we are counting the entire DVD, with all ~20,000 eBooks, as a single entry, even though hundreds of eBooks are not listed in the various Project Gutenberg catalogues.

As always in cases involving over 100,000 eBook files, there would be duplications, sometimes different paper editions, sometimes different formats of the same editions, and since Project Gutenberg volunteers, a very valued resource, make all these eBooks, we tend to try to give them the kind of recognition they deserve in the catalogues. However just moving an eBook from one format to another doesn’t usually count as a new edition unless there is a lot of work involved rather than a simple run through a conversion program, pretty much the same way the copyright law regards “sweat of the brow” copyrights. Some copyright laws count this, some don’t. Since our Project Gutenberg volunteers, from all over the world, were under so many different copyright laws, we also decided to let them choose how their eBooks should appear for listing in our catalogues, whether they were copyrighted or not.

So some people will say we haven’t counted all the books as they were counted it bricks and mortar libraries, and are far too short, and an alternate number of people will say we have counted duplications when we should not have.

In each case I encourage them to create a catalogue from ours that in some aspects will be better, in their opinions, and offer to place it online at our Project Gutenberg sites will full credit to them.

Obviously there would be some who would want to add more counts to do justice to more “editions” of the same books, some who will want only to include separate paper editions as separate eBook editions, and in other cases those who would count in other ways.

The current count as it appears in the Project Gutenberg Newsletters, gives as much credit as possible to the various sub-totals, and those collections donated to the Project Gutenberg Consortia Center are for the purposes of keeping those collections intact.

In addition, Project Gutenberg has five major different sites, and at least as

many different ways of cataloguing eBooks.

http://gutenberg.org ~50 languages The original PG site ~20,000* http://gutenberg.net.au Project Gutenberg of Australia ~700 http://pgdp.net Original Distributed Proofreaders Site ~8,750 http://gutenberg.cc ~100 languages PG Consortia Center ~75,000* http://pge.rastko.net ~65 languages PG of Europe ~325 http://dp.rastko.net Distributed Proofreaders Europe ~325 http://preprints.readingroo.ms/ Project Gutenberg PrePrints ~500*

[Numbers expected during Project Gutenberg 35th Anniverary Month] [Australian and European eBooks are now counted up in the 20,000, as are the eBooks in the new Project Gutenberg PrePrints Section] [The totals marked with an * add up to the total number of eBooks available from the multiple collections. The 75,000 is extremely conservative, and my own guess is that the grand total of all the Project Gutenberg sites is now approximating 100,000 eBooks but I realize that some cataloguers would want to deduct duplications– while other cataloguers would want to add more entries as they do for the same title in large print editions, audio books, etc.]

01/06/06 fear.net 1234 6

Fear and Fearmongering on the Internet

One of the most pervasive things I see on the Internet discussion groups I am in is fear.

I don't just mean fear in general, but a fear inspired also by the comments of others in the discussions.

I have thought about this for years and observed it in some detail, and have made uncomfortable conclusions– that people want control so badly that they fear those who thrive in the uncontrolled environment an Internet situation can provide.

It happens every year on most lists, where someone may be offended by a discussion going in directions he/she doesn't feel comfortable with, and rather than using a delete key or ignoring the situation, the person feels a need to stop the discussion altogether.

Sometimes these people call on the moderator, saying a discussion is "off topic," and sometimes responses are to fan the flames until they can claim it has become a "flame war" that must be stopped.

There are a number of tactics and strategies seen over and over again to stop discussions, and rarely is this a legitimate tactic or strategy actually addressing an obviously interesting question at hand.

Political Correctitude may be called into play and the options for stifling conversations that should be some kind of representative for the least stifled are many.

In fact, it is this kind of thing that directly led to the formation of this blog.

As you have hopefully seen in the blog's introduction, I try to write just one thing per day that might be in some manner a factor in changing the world, but I must honestly say that the people I send them to are pretty much unresponsive, to say the least and reactionary to say the most.

Reactionary politics is a term used to describe things done in reaction to changes to stifle those changes.

An example I use is the creation of copyrights to stop the effect of the Gutenberg Press.

When only the extremely wealthy or educated could read there was no law against copying anything, as only the very elite were involved in copying and publishing.

When The Gutenberg Press made publishing easier enough that the masses could partake in what used to be world enough only for the very elite, the elite took measure after measure to the royal court for 150 years until a copyright law was finally a reality.

The only reason, however, was a desire for the scribes and stationers of The Stationers Guild to maintain the monopoly they had prior to The Gutenberg Press.

This is reactionary politics.

The same thing takes place to stifle things every day.

Even worse, a great deal of mis/disinformation is sent into the situation by those who are unethical enough.

Those who are ethical are barred by their ethos from a similar counterattact.

This then requires not only a decent audience, but the decent participation of that audience to shout down an assortment of those who end discussions, or at least a decent participation in pointing out the logical flaws in their

arguments or the lack of arguments at all.

The truth is that I am very impressed and depressed by the power people have shown in being able to stop some discussions that everyone was obviously interested in.

After all, how could such a discussion become intense, if the truth was that there was no interest.

As for “off topic,” I notice that somehow the question does not arise when the moderator’s favored side is in a winning position.

Censorship is a terrible thing.

I should add here that one of the most powerful usages of copyright throughout the ages has been censorship.

I should also add here that the anti-negative is not a similar thing to positive, much less the same thing.

I have written articles about anti-negative, and about copyright that I can put in the blog on request.

One of the real questions that you should ask out loud when you run into such censorship situations is if the people in the disucssion NEED your input to realize an attack on their values has been made.

All too often one might presume that audience silences mean that the audiences have accepted what someone has said rather than that they are simply ignoring them.

Ask!

Another example in the copyright arena is a rather big reliance on threat legal action rather than on a legal quotation that actually shows a law has been violated.

We get these all the time at Project Gutenberg.

Our first response is simply to tell them that the law has not been quoted in their message, and that we will await a further message that details which provisions, under which specific laws, they feel are violated. In the end we have always found they are just blowing out legal smoke and have no real coypright understanding.

It is really amazing just how much action is taken off the record by such silly

threats and assertions.

“What I have done is legal.”

“What you have done is illegal.”

Of course it gets much fuzzier on Internet discussion groups where the rules aren’t well defined.

The solutions can be simple when you are censored:

1. Form a “back channel” communications group that a concerned group can use to continue the disucssion if the moderator tries to end the disucssion.

You might be surprised to learn just how many famous, really famous, Internet groups started this way.

1. Write your answers in a blog and mention the URL.

If the moderator censors even that, combine these two and send URLs via the back channel.

[Back channel means private email to those usually in a public discussion. You can simply save the address from anyone you want to talk with, usually in headers that accompany each email. I am a little distraught, when it comes to discussion groups that keep everyone so anonymous that you can’t contact them outside some method officially sanctioned by the moderators.

That is too much power and control.

When it comes down to it, most fear is caused by some lack of control, but who wants THAT much control over a conversation?

A lot of people do.

Otherwise we wouldn’t be having THIS discussion.

It happens a lot.

And, by the way, it happens a lot with winter coming.

I have a theory that “Seasonal Affective Disorder” is much more widespread than most people think and is in many ways also present in such groups.

media.07

Media and the World, A First Look at the 3rd Millennium World Media

I am speaking to you through a medium that didn't even exist for an entire 99% of the world just a few years ago. . .whether you call a medium such as this email, blogging, eBooks, eText, or whatever, it simply didn't exist for most of the world in previous generations.

Today it is responsible for the fall of CBS News Anchor Dan Rather, certainly one of "The Power Elite" no matter how thin you slide it, and for the education of more and more people worldwide.

Previously only such inter-networked items such as "The Super Bowl" could address an audience of a billion people, but today a billion, and more, have access to The Internet, a medium which flows both to and from each of those billion plus people, quite a change from the era of network television, network radio, newspaper chains, etc.

Of course it all started with Johannes Gutenberg's invention of the moveable type printing press around 1450, the first invention of an entirely new era of Mass Production that we eventually came to call "The Industrial Revolution."

Historians will argue with me on that point, saying Gutenberg Press was too distant a precursor to be given credit 300 years before The Industrial Revolution is cited by them, but I respond simply saying that their perspective is too short, particularly for historians.

They won't deny the following facts about The Gutenberg Press:

1. It was the first example of Mass Production.
2. It was the first example of interchangeable parts.
3. It created machinery capable of a duality of leverages.
4. It started a new trend towards utilitarian metallurgy, away from an entire history of military metallurical study.
5. It changed the entire structure of literacy and education– thus paving the way for The Scientific Revolution.
6. It paved the way for free speech, the likes of which hadn't ever been seen before, with Martin Luther as an example for all to see as to the power of the press, otherwise he would have most certainly been burned at the stake by The Church.

We could go on literally for pages as to the major effects of a world with The

Gutenberg Press, but I think you get the idea.

Today we are taking the first steps of a Second Gutenberg Press in the form of The Internet.

Today a nameless, faceless blogger can bring down Dan Rather.

Just three decades ago even a person as powerful as the #2 head of the CIA, Mark Felt, had to hide his identity as he tried for months and months to let the public know what he knew about the infamous "Watergate" scandal that brought down The White House, lock, stock and barrel, though President Nixon always remained, an "unindicted co-conspirator."

For those of you who might think in terms of conspiracy theory, it might be of interest to consider that President Ford who was the replacement President for Nixon, was neither elected to the office of President nor of Vice-President, but was, in fact for years the only surviving member of The Warren Commission, which commission was in charge of investigating the President Kennedy assassination, which had more than its share of such theories.

Today a billion different people have the potential of changing the world via The Internet, and one of them killed Dan Rather.

What will the effect of that be?

My own prediction is that "the powers that be" cannot abide the power to reside in the hands of "the people," no matter what it may say in any number of worldwide government documents.

I said something on this order the day I started puttting eText on The Internet in what I named Project Gutenberg.

"In your lifetimes it will be possible to carry `The Library of congress' in one hand. . .but they will make it illegal."

Today it IS possible to carry "The Library of Congress" in just one hand, and they have extended copyright coverage many ways– thus making it more and more illegal for the common person from any walk of life to own the written record of our civilization.

In my own opinion, now, as it was then, during Watergate, those people who are said to run the world just can't stand for plain folk to have that kind of direct access to information.

[See my article "usschools.07" for more details on this.]

Today we have a medium that could change the world as much as a previous world was changed by The Gutenberg Press.

Do you think those at the top of the heap want us to have kinds of information resources previously reserved only for them?

Do you think they want us to be able search all the information that gets out from behind closed doors?

Do you think they want us to be able to talk to each without an intermediary such as Dan Rather?

Do you realize that Dan Rather didn't tell us anything close to all that he knew?

Once the system is bypassed, the floodgates will open even more and more and more leaks such as "Deep Throat," will appear as a wider and wider range of people have voices that could reach an entirely new world.

Will it be a "Brave New World?"

Will it be a "1984?"

Will it be an "Animal Farm?"

I think the answers to these questions will become more obvious to you if you just ask the questions as you hear more about the efforts to control television and The Internet.

One of the major effects of digital television will be a signal that prevents you from copying programs as we have back since a Watergate Era and the dawn of the VCR. While the courts should be expected to still give lip service to "The Betamax Case," it will soon become obvious that your right to a copy of broadcast media will no longer mean what it used to.

WHY SO MUCH EMPHASIS ON SPORTS???

Thousands of people are paid millions of dollars per year for playing games. . .just games. . .that have nothing in the way of real significance other than to the fanatics– yes, that's where the term "fan" comes from. . .it's just a short version of the word "fanatic."

So why?

Because sports is one of the ONLY places in a whole world where people get rewarded for doing their best!!!

This is the only POSITIVE reason, the rest are NEGATIVE.

In schools the academically excellent are roasted as some kind of “curve raiser” on a grading scale that should not be measuring people any other way than objectively.

In the sports arenas those who outdo everyone else should expect millions of dollars more in their next contract or perhaps even tens of millions more. . .per year.

“In the real world” those who do too well are discouraged from both above and below for upsetting functioning of an already traditional “well oiled machine.”

In fact, in an assortment of jobs wider than you may want to become aware of, there are rules against anyone making more of a product in a workday than a specified number in so many hours, and then they have to spend remaining time in the break room, sometimes studying for night classes– in a vain effort to get out of such a system, until their new less blue-collar, more white-collar job turns out the same way.

Academic superstars are never treated with the respect as is given to sports superstars. . .they don’t appear on an assortment of television shows. . .they don’t get clothes from famous brand names. . .and they don’t get drafted to the major leagues with multi-million dollar contracts.

And the coaches. . .there are perhaps a dozen coaches for colleges in the United States alone who receive millions, per year, in multi-year contracts, not counting benefits, such as those we never see in compensation figures.

Notre Dame, Texas, USC, even the Big Ten has a couple.

If you don’t think any of this trickles down to students, er. . .players. . .just look up some recent scandals, and don’t forget the latest Heisman Trophy winner, though the fact is nearly a certainty that he will be exonerated via a very short investigation.

Remember what it was first revealed that the highest paid at certain famous colleges were not the presidents but an assortment sports coaches?

By the way, even high school coaches in these areas get a higher salary than the teachers, even than the professors in the average college. . .not a million per year, but in the 6 figures where high school teachers rarely tread.

Even in hockey, failing though it may be, there are still places where you can

find over a dozen players making the millions of dollars per year on a single team.

In fact, looking more deeply, this may be true of all the teams. . .or at least most of them.

In NFL football, there are a number of players who manage to get close to $10 million in a year, through the "front loading" of contracts to may more up front, and with some other cute "creative accounting procedures," not even for all the contracts for various commercial endorsements and those can be greater than the actual salary.

Remember when Michael Jordan was getting more than all of the people in the entire world making Nike shoes?

Roger Clemens, the famous baseball pitcher that won't get to ever retire if baseball has its way, was up for salary arbitration for $22 million dollars. . .that's a million, a million dollars, per game, if he wins 22 games which is highly unlikely.

Of course, one COULD argue that this is nothing compared, across the way, to the Friends stars who got that salary, without having to work up nearly as much of a sweat, with the guarantee that they would get to the end of a season, without having to go out as losers as every baseball team but one does every single year, every football team, each of the basketball teams, etc., etc., etc.

Hollywood is just a more obvious case of entertainment as the highest value, with without the "redeeming value" for their industry of making an actual effort. . .but I don't have the time or inclination to talk much about Hollywood other than to remind you that when the home video markets first opened up, the Hollywood business plan was to wipe- out-all-home-video as if it were "The Boston Strangler."

Just look up "The Boston Strangler" and "Jack Valenti."

Across the hall from the entertainment complex over there in televisionland is the newly crowned imperial palace of Infotainment. . .and I guess the Empress is Katie Couric, bringing down some $15 million per year, though I must be honest and tell you that in the first two weeks she maybe did better than any of the rest of them, though she's got a bigger salary, too. By the way, it also appears that a lot of new ad sales for The CBS Evening News came in, and it was more than enough to cover her salary.

Shades of "Network". . .the movie that predicted that the "Infotainment"

industry would take over the world so long ago that many of you may never have heard of it.

Interesting that none of the media pundits have brought a thing like this into their perspectives.

Perhaps they are afraid of blowing the whistle. . .and in the process blowing it on themselves. . . .

So, in an age where the rich are getting so much richest, and the poor are getting so much poorest. . .where is the media actually trying to take us?

They aren't trying to take us to school.

They make it obvious that the jocks will get the money.

They don't have to make it obvious they get the girls.

They seem to fear anyone who is more than 10% smarter and to pass that fear on to everyone else.

Why are they afraid of brains instead of brawn?

Shouldn't they be more afraid of someone who could take a person's head off, literally?

Oh, the thin veneer of civilization.

Does anyone remember civilization of Rome?

Does anyone remember how the focus on sport was a symptom of that society's illness, an illness no one could/would/ should see from the inside?

Not to mention the corruption in all three branches of an assortment of governmental levels by the executive branch and the judicial branch and the legislative branch?

In the sense of the average citizen:

Big Brother doesn't have to watch you, Big Brother has got you watching him!!!

And THAT is the reason all these sports and infotainments are given such huge monetary rewards.

To keep YOU out of the REAL WORLD and into a game world.

How Project Gutenberg Does NOT Reflect Anyone's Personal Taste

by Michael S. Hart Founder, Project Gutenberg

When I started Project Gutenberg and worked through the decade of the 70's, the entire output of the 70's was dedicated to an assortment of "History of Democracy" documents: such as those on the walls of so many malls, schools, etc., during that time surrounding the United States Bicentennial year of 1976.

After that I researched the most quoted works in English and I pursued those with the obvious choices of Shakespeare's works, and The Bible.

From there we branched out widely to include books read by all ages such as Alice In Wonderland and Peter Pan, and also those books commonly called "reference books" with Roget's Thesaurus in two different editions, and books called "heavy literature" with two editions of Milton's Paradise Lost, all in the dozen, or so, books that came after those mentioned above.

Thus, from the very start, Project Gutenberg had no collection of anyone's personal taste, including, or particularly, tastes that might be considered that of the founder, yours truly.

For the entire history of Project Gutenberg, when volunteers I talked with asked me what books they should do, my response is now, and always has been, that they should choose their own in their own frames of reference, not to expect me or anyone else to make the selections for them. The only exceptions I should probably add have been when we were very near completing works of some particular author, and then we would send out messages asking for help with the few remaining works.

The Fundamental Concepts of Project Gutenberg

Project Gutenberg embodies the most open of open door policies with the goal of including as many people as possible in books from all aspects: production, proofreading, and distribution.

We want to encourage everyone at every level to participate in Project Gutenberg at every level.

Project Gutenberg differs from nearly every other program that you have ever heard of in that we work from the bottom up, NOT from the top down.

We endeavor to make eBooks available in ways that everyone can own and use them, with no particular requirements for programs that cost readers, no

need to store large files, or any others of a number of eBook philosophies out there that embody what I refer to as “Limited Distribution” in a new world that should, would, and could embody “Unlimited Distribution.”

Project Gutenberg’s philosophy is to bring as many books to as wide as possible larger audiences of readers around the world,

meaning we must include books in a wide range of languages.

The whole idea has been to create a library with works of high interest to a wider and wider range of readers, including, and perhaps particularly aimed towards, those who have not had the greatest opportunities in terms of reading.

In much the same vein, Project Gutenberg does not choose fonts or formats of any particular kind for the books we produce.

We do not feel we should force our own personal tastes on some reader out there who has their own taste, or is just now doing the initial readings that create such a taste.

However, this does not mean we will not accept certain work in certain formats, certain fonts, margination, pagination, etc., but we will also not make it against any rules for our readers to convert those books into other fonts, margins, etc., though we will pass on any messages from those who created the books, including their own personal preferences as to what appearance they find most suitable for that particular book.

School System Woes Plague USA for Obvious Reasons

“Universal Education” Has Become More Than Just An Oxymoron

While the rest of the world is becoming the level playing field of The Earth Is Flat variety, the United States is becoming the opposite, a greater and greater socio-economic divide between a ever more wealthy upper crust who will only give a minimum wage increase that isn’t really a raise at all with inflation for an estate tax repeal that gives them the power to generate larger, larger, and ever larger family fortunes that can be passed from generation to unearned generation without taxation in an effort to recreate “The Landed Gentry” aristocracy that ruined Europe.

This is not only taking place in the financial boardrooms “Wall Street” provides for such purposes, nor in the hallowed hall of the hidden “smoke filled room” of Congress, but it is taking up residence right here in our own home towns where the school for the rich is quite different from the school

for the rest of us, and even more different from the school for the poor.

More and more United States cities are suffering a return to an elementary form of segregation, this time based on money rather than on race.

Unites States school systems are suffering all over the country in epidemic proportions without much attention to the causes or possible proactive action rather than the usual remedial fares, so expensive, and nearly always millions of dollars short and a number of decades too late.

Other than the rather spectacular resurgence of math or science in the post-Sputnik era that I was fortunate enough to surf and take maximum advantage of, and a relatively similar resurgence, that no one ever mentions, in the Liberal Arts as a result of a decade simply known as "The Sixties," US school systems have an extraordinarily perfect rate of decline since national testings were instituted as part of the World War Two recruitment.

The results are there for all to see, at least those who may be willing to look past the sugar coated placebo reports coming up from revised, or should we say "revisionary," test scores, that tell us flat out that even with the addition of higher learning schedules in math and science in high schools, nationwide tests continually reveal falling test scores when compared to a World War Two base that started what we now have as SAT or ACT tests.

Any honest mathematician, and there are many, can tell you that it was the fact that these scores, dropping by a few tenths per year over the period since the Us entered WWII, finally dropped to under 90% of their initial scores that stimulated interest– and not any of the plethora of causes of that event–but that's a matter for someone other than mathematicians.

The FACT is that when we reached that 90% level it sparked more interest than any of the direct causes of that event, resulting in a flurry of methodologies to HIDE the problem by revisionist manipulation of the test scores, even though the test scores in many cases, sometimes even most, were not valid.

Not valid?

I happened to take my college entrance exams in a year when the tests were so poorly run that experts said that flipping a coin would give you better results as to success in college, and the people I knew bore it out–"the best and brightest" dropped out in greater numbers than the average student, due to frustration with colleges that had not kept up with a rapidily changing new educations that swept the country after Sputnik, in addition to a general distrust of an educational system and fed students as fodder to President

Eisenhower's "Military-Industrial Complex."

However, more modern causes of education in America have grown, and we are just getting used to some of them in terms of a flat Earth, as described by Thomas L. Friedman, globalization, and a general neglect to deal with change at all levels.

Students are plain speaking in their responses to why they will not go to school when you ask them, there are no jobs they want that school will prepare them for.

Many of their former job scenarios have been "outsourced" along with the motivation to be willing to be educational fodder to a previously mentioned Military-Industrial Complex that no longer provides jobs that require much in the way of education. After all, many job scenarios, including the military, merely look at a high school diploma as evidence that a person can be trained, not that they have learned anything of any particular value.

"Getting your ticket punched," as they used to say, means those students who could tolerate and succeed at high school would be likely to tolerate and succeed in the training provided by "The Military-Industrial Complex."

I should add here that President Eisenhower's original phrase: "The Military-Industrial-Congressional Complex" was censored– not even the President of the United States has free speech.

Back to the modern causes of America's educational malaise.

After WWII America dealt with segregation, at least of a kind, but what started out as a methodology to end race segregation, ended up as something quite different.

The upper class white folk pulled their children out of school systems that were near enough to black population to have some chance of racial integration and did one of two things:

1. Moved to all-white upper class suburban centers.

2. Moved their children to all-white private schools.

3. Even public school teachers were reported to be sending their own children to private school systems.

4. Property taxes, long the bastion of the school systems have become too much more many people to bear: those who can, as with the inner city

messes, have moved to the outlying areas and then resisted annexation.

5. Even when annexation is unavoidable, sometimes deals are made to be annexed by a smaller community with no major needs than by one of the larger cities that are already in financial crisis, and thus will tax anyone as much as they can/will bear.

6. The major problem here: the poor can't afford to move so the tax burden, both by political design and by the simple case of not being able to move, puts tax burden squarely on the shoulders and wallets, of those whom a simple alternative to most, is missing: cannot move– have no political power.

This led to a different kind of discrimination based on class, something that was obvious to the rest of the world but denied by the United State.

Class warfare is one of the major causes of education failures in America today, as those who can continued to move away from those who cannot afford to move, thus creating their own sites of "free enterprise zones" where they can do as they please.

What is left behind are degenerating industrial complexes, due to the fact that the same thing is happening in globalization, for the industrial complex, as is happening when the housewife moves her family to suburbia to avoid the inner city mess they created beforehand.

It is no longer just the Inner City that is decaying under the burden of these events, nor individual industries, as happened with "The Rust Belt," when the American steel industry refused to keep up with Japanese and German steel after World War Two. Duh! If you bomb someone's steel mills, of course they have a necessity of building new ones [and we helped them] and then a newer industry naturally overtook an older one with technology that gave them a huge advantage. . .while the United States is yelling about unfair competition, "dumping," etc., when answer after answer are staring them right in the face.

Just how much more obvious can it be, that a new techologicial innovation in Japanese and German steelmaking is going to give them a competitive edge?

The same, of course, is true in education, and other areas.

The real kicker, more than a fading infrastructure of industry and education, along with failing transportation systems, is a very real threat that the American financial centers will fail in the same manner, which will finally

bring attention, little and late, to the fact that the world's one last super-power is creating its own brand of kryptonite.

For now, the "solution" for those who can, is obvious:

Everyone is simply leaving the bad situations behind, and then looking for green pastures, which are always over the fence.

"The grass is always greener on the other side of the fence."

When I Was A Kid

When I was a kid we idols, some real, some not, my own were Einstein and Peter Pan, and in many ways, I am still trying to live up to their examples by using my mind and by trying to save the world.

What served us for role models back then were admittedly an exemplary bunch for those who watched the Nelsons, Cleavers and the precursors to The Brady Bunch, while the exemplary, if we can call them that, for the rest of the audience, was more like the fare provided by The Honeymooners and Lucy.

Other than the likes of The Honeymooners, The Life of Riley and the likes of Red Skelton's "Freddy The Freeloader" most of what we saw on early television was above us, just as an assortment of movies were, where everyone wore fine clothes and drove late model cars.

The Fifties were an era of unparalled growth in the US, and the media pushed this plenty, with just a little pepper for some spice here and there.

It was easy to get lost in the world of "Ozzie and Harriet" or "Leave It To Beaver" or "Lassie" or any of the shows far and wide that showed us how to be the best we could be as a great consumer in a great consumer society.

It never made any difference that we didn't have a car well enough appointed to be in any television show, refrigerator was just a fictional thing when I grew up we had an icebox, complete with ice we had delivered to keep it cold, and the coal truck poured coal into our basement, etc., etc., etc.

All this changed, of course, as electricity got cheaper and we got an electric furnace, an electric refrigerator, etc., but we were the last to have a party line. Look it up, and don't confuse it with modern Republican dogma.

The one thing about all those people we saw on television's vast landscape was that they were happy.

Not always, but by the end of the show, it all worked out.

Today at the end of the show the characters need Valium and perhaps something even stronger.

There is no hope in most of our media today, whether it may be fiction, non-fiction, docu-drama, info-tainment, or some other aspect of nearly anything but sports, but even sports has become so nationalized that at the end of the season it is the truth that everyone is a loser except one champion.

We used to live in villages where everyone had a role, from the biggest, tallest, heaviest, fastest, smartest, best one at this, that, or the other thing, but now we live villager in and villager out in a national or even global village.

And, of course, I am part of it. . .or you would not likely be reading any of this. . .unless you are one of my friends who don't always read what I send them anyway.

I grew up in a world where anyone could do anything.

Anyone could fix their own car when it broke down.

Not everyone, but anyone. . . .

Anyone could replace the tubes in their TV or radio.

Anyone could build a bicycle.

Anyone but the most citfied could ride a horse, shoot guns, find their way home when they got lost, cook their dinners, and all the stuff that came along with it.

It wasn't that we were self-sufficient, in fact we stuck to each other all the more closely because we knew that we had to depend on each other when the going got tough.

Today you look up your help in the Yellow Pages, and heaven protect you if your furnace blows up on Christmas Eve, as I had to deal with last Christmas. . .which dehydrated me too much from sweating over it all night that kidney stones had popped up as a result. . .but with the help of my friends I survived the whole thing until the weather warmed up and it is now time to replace the furnace at a leisurely pace, and to make more friends in the process.

People who pay for all the help they ever need never really know what it is like to have friends you can depend on from that kind of perspective, and as

we become more and more an ever more consumer oriented society, we lost that friendly, and pioneering spirit of doing things yourself, and if not, with your friends. . .and instead you get the Yellow Pages.

I got my furnace guy by having him recommended by a friend, as I got tired of the Yellow Pages guys that kept coming to my house and having no idea what my home life was like.

He and I are hoping to be friends for the rest of our life.

/

This is my first real week with my feet on the ground after a month on the road to give several presentations on eBooks after getting my best friend married off, and I also made a pilgrimage to see my mother and brother. . .and it all said and done, couldn't have gone better.

I even made friends with the guys who worked on my car.

This is the way it is supposed to be, in my book at least.

I don't like the distance between people nowadays, even tho some people might describe me as a hermit because I am such a workaholic. . .but I am only a workaholic because I would like very much to make the world a better place.

I hate to say it, but most of the people I know are quite a workaholic bunch, too, but without the same motivation.

Speaking of the distance I dont' like, my town, 100,000 and not really growing, has grown physically since I moved here but the population really hasn't changed much, other than a few annexations, but over 50 years the population is up 7%, and I'm sure the physical area us up much more.

Why?

THREE TIMES AS MANY PEOPLE ARE LIVING ALONE!

That's right. . . .

The town is growing because the family structure has died a horrible death in the 50 years since I was a kid, and less, less, less people live together, more, more, more alone.

When I first moved here, I could soon name all the persons, all of them, who lived around me, just as I could in Tacoma where I lived before. Everyone

knew me, I knew everyone.

Today I'll bet the vast majority of all the people who live within a mile of here know Oprah better than all but a very very small number, 1, 2 or 3, of their neighbors.

When I was a kid all the kids used to get together and pick fruits and berries when they got ripe and take them over to Jo Jo's Mom's and she would make pies, she got half, and we got half, it was a great trade off.

No one ever worried about her baking skills, she was famous in the neighborhood, and her kids were eating the same pies as we did, the most natural safeguard, though I doubt if it ever struck anyone's mind to consider that sort of thing.

Then came urbanization and the stories about people getting raped right on the sidewalks of New York City and neighbors never even calling the police to help.

I get the same thing from my neighbor now, no real neighbor in this case, the house I used to live in next door has the distinguisted position of having been taken over by lawyers who won't even open the door at night, saying:

"I don't know you."

Even when they have seen me hundreds of times.

The media started portraying a disfunctional world, back in the 1980's or so, and it became obvious that this was not a simple trend with the "J.R. For President" t-shirts were an instant best seller, and you knew Reagan would win.

Reagan, whose idea of fair play was to water down a "school lunch" program that was designed for "universal education," by declaring that "Ketchup Is A Vegetable," and the race to separate The Haves from The Have Nots by givernmental edict was on the front burner.

Reagan and J.R. walked hand in hand through America and the country has never been the same since, though Reagan was an easy puppet replacement for the shamed Richard M. Nixon who will always live in shame of cheating to win an election he couldn't have lost if he tried. . .he wanted a "mandate."

Today's replacements for Nixon claim a mandate when they do not even get more votes than an oppenent.

Yes, it's all a conspiracy, starting with the anti-heros of Reagan and J.R., and continuing on with Bush I and Bush II, all in the mouldy mold of Nixon. . .it didn't matter at all that he got caught. . . .

The media bring us anti-heroes in programming and the news, there is no hope, that is what they want us to believe, and they want us to believe that because people with no hope in their minds and hearts are easy to lead into oblivion, just as those who experienced The Holocaust in World War Two.

Oh! That's right, The Holocaust never happened.

Then why have I personally witnessed the tattoos?

"Those who do not study history are condemed to repeat it."

The school system is now designed to keep us from studying, history or anything else, other than The Vocational Arts to make us suitable fodder for Corporate Amerika.

"The business of America. . .is business."

"What's good for business. . .is good for America."

And the rich keep getting richer, as the poor get poorer.

A $2 minimum wage increase, already eaten by inflation, for millions and billions of estate tax exemptions?

What kind of offer is that?

Luckily it was turned down, even in an election year. . . !

The rate of people earning over $100,000 is grown six times as fast as the general rate of the population. CBS News.

Their houses are bigger and bigger but hold fewer people.

Of course, as I mentioned earlier, that is true of everyone around here. . .three times as many people living alone.

No wonder there are billion dollar a year businesses that a population that can't call itself a society any longer must use to contact other people to go out with on a date!

Our social fabric has decayed so much that we use church or school or sports or these billion dollar enterprises for an excuse to find that missing human

contact.

Just how obvious does it have to become?

The average family size continues to fall.

More and more people live alone for longer periods of lives.

Even when we are out and about, we insulate ourselves from a whole world when we roll up our windows and turn on the a/c. This is not just in cars, 80-90% of American households have a/c and thus stay inside with the doors and windows closed.

Even on the most beautiful days of the year I can hear those air-conditioners humming all around my neighborhood, and the windows in the cars are nearly all rolled up, insulating not just against the fine weather, but against everyone else.

The cherry on top?

When I drive down boulevards next to Waikiki Beach, most car windows I see are still up, literally 95% of them, I have an army of witnesses.

If people won't let in one of the most beautiful beachs on a whole planet, in a place where the weather is spectacular on a regular basis, then we are certainly in for problems.

12/25/95 chandel.ier

The Chandelier Diatribe by Michael S. Hart Founder Project Gutenberg

-ORIGINAL MESSAGE– Hart undoubtedly saw academia as a series of dark brown dream shapes, disorganized, nightmarish, each with its set of rules for nearly everything: style of writing, footnoting, limited subject matter, and each with little reference to each other.

-REPLY- What he wanted to see was knowledge in the form of a chandelier, with each subject area powered by the full intensity of the flow of information, and each sending sparks of light to other areas, which would then incorporate and reflect them to others, a never ending flexion and reflection, an illumination of the mind, soul and heart of Wo/Mankind as could not be rivalled by a diamond of the brightest and purest clarity.

Instead, he saw petty feudal tyrants, living in dark poorly lit, poorly heated, well defended castles: living on a limited diet, a diet of old food, stored away for long periods of time, salted or pickled or rotted or fermented. Light from

the outside isn't allowed in, for with it could come the slings and arrows of life and the purpose of the castle was to keep the noble life in, and all other forms of life out. Thus the nobility would continue a program of inbreeding which would inevitably be outclassed by an entirely random reflexion of the world's gene pool.

A chandelier sends light in every direction, light of all colors and intensities. No matter where you stand, there are sparkles, some of which are aimed at you, and you alone, some of which are also seen by others: yet, there is no spot of darkness, neither are there spots of overwhelming intensity, as one might expect a sparkling source of lights to give off. Instead, the area is an evenly lit paradise, with direct and indirect light for all, and at least a few sparkles for everyone, some of which arrive, pass or stand still as we watch.

But the system is designed to eliminate sparkles, reflections or any but the most general lighting. Scholars are encouraged to a style and location of writing which guarantee that 99 and 44 one hundredths percent of the people who read their work will be the colleagues, already part of that inbred nobility of their fields and others need not apply.

We are already aware that most of our great innovations are made from leaps from field to field, that the great thinkers apply an item here in this field which was gleaned there from that field: thus are created the leaps which created new fields that widened the fields of human endeavor in general since time immemorial.

Yet, our petty nobles, cased away in their casements, encased in their tradition, always reject the founding of these new fields, fearing their own fields can only be dimmed by comparison. This is true, but only by their own self-design. If their field were open to light from the outside, then the new field would be part of their field, but by walling up the space around themselves, a once new and shining group of enterprising revolutionaries could only condemn themselves to awaiting the ravages of time, tarnish and ignorance as they become ignorant of the outside world while the outside world becomes ignorant of them.

So, I plead with you, for your sake, my sake, for everyone's, to open windows in your mind, in your field, in your writing and in your thinking; to let illumination both in and out, to come from underneath and from behind the bastions of your defenses, and to embrace the light and the air, to see and to breathe, to be seen and to be breathed by the rest of Wo/Mankind.

Let your light reflect and be reflected by the other jewels in a crown of achievement more radiant than anything we have ever had the chance to see

or to be before.

Let your light join the world!

Matthew 5:15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

Mark 4:21 And he said unto them, Is a candle brought to be put under a bushel, or under a bed? and not to be set on a candlestick?

Luke 8:16 No man, when he hath lighted a candle, covereth it with a vessel, or putteth it under a bed; but setteth it on a candlestick, that they which enter in may see the light.

Luke 11:33 No man, when he hath lighted a candle, putteth it in a secret place, neither under a bushel, but on a candlestick, that they which come in may see the light. 12/25/95 chandel2

A Re-Visitation to the Chandelier by Michael S. Hart

Every so often I get a note from a scholar with questions and comments about the Project Gutenberg Edition of this or that. Most of the time this appears to be either idle speculation– since there is never any further feedback about passages this or that edition does better in the eye of particular scholars or the feedback is of the “holier than thou” variety in which the scholar claims to have found errors in our edition, which the scholar then refuses to enumerate.

As for the first, there can certainly be little interest in a note that appears, even after follow-up queries, of that idle brand of inquiry.

As to the second, we are always glad to receive a correction, that is one of the great powers of etext, that corrections be made easily and quickly when compared to paper editions, with the corrections being made available to those who already had the previous editions, at no extra charge.

However, when someone is an expert scholar in a field they do have a certain responsibility to have their inquiries be some reasonable variety, with a reasonable input, in order to have a reasonable output. To complain that there is a problem w/o pointing out the problem has a rich and powerful vocabulary I do not feel is appropriate for this occasion. We have put an entirely out-of-proportion cash reward on these errors at one time or another and still have not received any indications a scholar has actually ever found them, which would not be more difficult than finding errors in any other etexts, especially ones not claiming an beginning accuracy of only 99.9%.

However, if these corrections WERE forthcoming, then the 99.9 would soon approach 99.95, which is the reference error level referred to several times in the Library of Congress Workshop on Electronic Text Proceedings.

On the other hand, just as the Project Gutenberg's efficiency would drop dramatically if we insisted our first edition of a book were over 99.5% accurate, so too, should efficiency drop dramatically if we were ever to involve ourselves in any type of discussion resembling "How many angels can dance on a pin- head." The fact is, that our editions are NOT targeted to an audience specifically interested in whether Shakespeare would have said:

"To be or not to be" "To be, or not to be" "To be; or not to be" "To be: or not to be" "To be–or not to be"

This kind of conversation is and should be limited to the few dozen to few hundred scholars who are properly interested. A book designed for access by hundreds of millions cannot spend that amount of time on an issue that is of minimal relevance, at least minimal to 99.9% of the potential readers. However, we DO intend to distribute a wide variety of Shakespeare, and the contributions of such scholars would be much appreciated, were it ever given, just as we have released several editions of the Bible, Paradise Lost and even Aesop's Fables.

In the end, when we have 30 different editions of Shakespeare on line simulatnously, this will probably not even be worthy, as it hardly is today, of a footnote. . .I only answer out of respect for the process of creating these editions as soon as possible, to improve the literacy and education of the masses as soon as possible.

For those who would prefer to see that literacy and education continue to wallow in the mire, I can only say that a silence on your part creates its just reward. Your expertise dies an awful death when it is smothered by hiding your light under a bushel, as someone whom is celebrated today once said:

Matthew 5:15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

Mark 4:21 And he said unto them, Is a candle brought to be put under a bushel, or under a bed? and not to be set on a candlestick?

Luke 8:16 No man, when he hath lighted a candle, covereth it with a vessel, or putteth it under a bed; but setteth it on a candlestick, that they which enter in may see the light.

Luke 11:33 No man, when he hath lighted a candle, putteth it in a secret

place, neither under a bushel, but on a candlestick, that they which come in may see the light.

MY WRITING STYLE

by Michael S. Hart

If you have read a lot of what I have written, you probably already know half of what I am about to tell you here.

I write as I think and talk, in broad strokes, with no doubts as to where I am coming from or going to, though I will be the first from any source to point out that sometimes I interested in some details more than others, and thus may give detailed examples here, where I don't give any there. This may later be counterbalanced by my fair play instinct, and you might see a paragraph in such a style as was obviously written at a different time and place. . .I often get the kind of feedback that comes from arguing both sides of an issue.

The reason for this is that I think in terms of very big pictures– pictures that cross the boundaries of social and economic classes– pictures that cross the boundaries between the arts and science and pictures that cross the boundaries of hundreds of countries, over a period of thousands of years, and include the fates of billions and billions of people.

I am trying to change the world, and I make no attempt to hide that I am trying to change the world, though I must admit that every day it seems as if I am forced to learn more and more how very much the people of the world, at least those who have voices in such things, resist the simple effort I am making to provide books to the masses of the entire planet without regard to all those boundaries.

You see, most of the voices you hear are the voices of those who in one manner or another won under the current set of rules, and thus, in an effort to perpetuate their winnings, want to keep those rules in place, or even rewrite them even more to their advantage. Given a quick look at certain measures to preserve the wealth of the rich in America by eliminating the estate tax, I am sure you understand,

or will understand, as soon as you take a look.

However, once in very, very long time, an invention comes along and upsets the previously established old boye networke, giving a truly unprecedented chance to the masses that used to be reserved for the very wealthy and powerful.

The obvious choice for this is The Gutenberg Press as Gutenberg was the obvious choice for “Man Of The Millennium”. . .as the person to whom we owe the most for our current level of civilization.

Before Johannes Gutenberg the average person owned 0 books.

Before Project Gutenberg the average person owned 0 libraries.

Before Johannes Gutenberg the price of the average book was equal to the price of the average family farm.

Before Project Gutenberg the price of the average library was equal to the price of the average family farm.

Before Johannes Gutenberg the literacy rate was maybe 1 percent.

Before Project Gutenberg the literacy rate was maybe 10 percent.

[See my articles about the US Adult Literacy Rate measurements.]

But literacy is only the tip of the iceberg, and the titanic ships of state have no way of steering there behemoth gigatonnage around any changes as great as those of The Gutenberg Press.

It has now been ~35 years since I first placed “The US Declaration of Independence” online as the first step in building an eLibrary, and while even the largest nations and corporations and colleges a world has to offer have voiced lip service to such eLibraries, the sad truth is that there priorities are still the same, to preserve the status quo, and NOT to bring library after library into homes, other than into the homes of those who can afford them.

The broad stroked sketch of this is that if even a small college– much less a small city, state or nation–had invested even 1% of a tiny budget in such an eLibrary over the same number of years, the truth is that no one would ever have heard of Project Gutenberg.

The truth is that none of the power players WANT a world in which, for whatever reasons they may give, there are entire libraries for the masses to OWN in their own homes.

We’ve had “personal computers” since the 1970’s.

Why not “personal libraries” since the 1980’s???

You probably don’t know that there WERE some attempts at libraries of an electronic nature that supposedly started in the 1980’d, but these were kept

away from even the general public of the Internet, still a rather elite bunch back in the 1980's. Today these claim, for better, or for worse, to be the oldest and largest eLibraries, and I respond simply by asking how many people have downloaded how many books from these eLibraries, and in what periods.

Heaven only knows how few people I have ever met who have books of these eLibraries, even today, that they downloaded directly.

If you have visited many of these eLibraries, you know that it was not the most friendly atmosphere, not the kind of place where your desire for books was met with "take all you want" and "give to the family and friends," but instead with a rather stiff presentation, and with open faced statements that you were not intended to read, or copy, or whatever, the books from these eLibraries.

This is just the opposite of Project Gutenberg, where the original collection is downloaded en masse every single day and night by an assortment of worldwide readers. The donated collections have the various different rules of their donated eLibraries, which we were only too glad to honor, as long as we could give them away to all.

Without undue effort, a person can download an entire library from Project Gutenberg, while sleeping overnight or during the weekend.

It is my hope that soon it will be possible to download the dozens of libraries that could be filled in this manner, all with perhaps just one click for the entire library.

/OK, enough about Project Gutenberg.

However, please recall that I said literacy was just the iceberg's tip as we got started on this topic.

The truth is that The Gutenberg Press was not just the father of a new age of literacy, but also the father of The Scientific Age and of The Industrial Revolution.

The Gutenberg Press provided the first widespread diaspora of what was" known in the world of science, and it was also that very

first example of what was to become known as:

"Mass Production"

Before The Gutenberg Press, there was no mass production concept!

Before The Gutenberg Press, there was no utilitarian metallurgy!

Before The Gutenberg Press, there were no interchangeable parts!

Before The Gutenberg Press, there was no middle class literacy!

Before The Gutenberg Press, there was no mass education system!

Just try having an Industrial Revolution without them!!!

Today we are going through the same changes.

And the "globalization" of everything is upsetting those who quite literally used to have everything to themselves, just as it did in the days of The Gutenberg Press.

There are those who strongly resent that the masses can now have a whole library of free books, not just in physical fortresses quite well supervised and protected by the system.

There are those who strongly resent that any one of these "masses" who reads enough could gain a college level education without them having to pass through the "cookie cutter" educational system that used to ensure that most graduates thought as they were told to.

Let's not forget those "masses" and Bibles that were translated or printed by Martin Luther and the like.

Before that The Church had a monopoly on all religious information and on the rites and rituals and their interpretations which were, to say the least, somewhat "situational ethics."

You can be sure that modern universities and colleges will feel in similar ways about those who educate themselves. . .and the "self- made person will take yet another beating at the system's hands.

Yet not all modern universities act and feel this way!!!

MIT, The Massachussets Institute of Technology, provides all of an entire university's available online course material to the public at large, so anyone in the world who wants can immerse themselves, as fully as they like, in any and all of MIT's reading material at absolutely no cost.

In addition MIT is funding various "FABrication LABoratories" from Africa to

Scandinavia where local residents are encouraged to make anything they can think of. . .in Africa it's parts for an age old washing machine that the manufacturer hasn't supported for decades and in Scandinavia it may be parts for a new-fangled bicycle.

MIT is also responsible for starting the "$100 Laptop Project" for including the "Have Nots" in the virtual world. I, myself support the $100 Laptop Project by encouraging Project Gutenberg to give a base library of eBooks to the recipients of the $100 Laptops.

The major problem is that most of the "Haves" strongly resent this kind of opportunity for the "Have Nots" to become "Haves."

Home schooling

However, sometimes the disapproval of the "Haves" backfires on the very people who started various movements, such as Home Schooling, which was created to allow for extreme fundamentalist religions to teach things in school that were outlawed by "Separation of Church and State." Those who deny there is no such separation should see their money-changers to find out why they do not pay taxes. It is fair enough from my point of view to end these separations as long as all back taxes are paid in full as if they had always been due, and I am even willing to forego penalties, and just have them paid up the same way a normal person or company would, but no penalties unless they create new reasons for such.

The roots of "Home Schooling" date back to the end of segregation, when various kinds of white supremacists, not the kind that get in all the media, just the normal everyday kind, decided to school an entire generation outside the now "integrated" school systems, but this idea also appealed to those on the other side of the aisle to school their children in thinking just the opposite way.

In a certain way "integration" caused a new kind of "segregation," first defined by "white flight" to create suburbs in which kind of a "socio-economic" segregation took place, and again, these people were able to keep their children in separate classrooms of unequal funding, since schools have traditionally been property taxes, and these people all had property well above the average.

For them it was a win-win scenario, moving away from all problems, still living within the appearance of a very high propriety, still being able to create their own brand of segregation.

But once this reached the level of the lower class fundamentalists who could

not afford such an existential move to suburbia, schools of private or suburban levels being unaffordable to them, then the idea of “Home Schooling” took root, and programs to support school activities in the home, without the need to send your children for any kind of contact with the masses.

After all, wasn’t that the general premise of the whole thing, the ideal being to keep you and yours away from them and theirs.

They say “you can’t legislate morality” and this is perhaps one of the best examples, along with “prohibition” and “abstinence.”

However, as I mentioned above, those who planned to beat their own system of laws found that this backfired, and the other half, such as it was, also could put their children into home schooling, thus avoiding the trash-pits that were left behind when “white flight,” and other upper class alternatives were used to outflank the legal requirements of school integration.

I won’t even go into the whole school “bussing” issue here, but it might well be worth your attention to see just how far people were willing to go to avoid either segregation or integration.

The basic idea was that since various towns had been formed with a specific plan to create a new all white upper class school system, that the way to defeat this plan was simply to have all students a certain area had sent to school on school busses, or at least half of them, and thus mix the school populations across the boundaries of suburban town lines and school districts.

It was a VERY interesting ride.

Thus the liberals founded their own home schooling system, and the conservatives may have appeared foiled, but the truth is that this society became ever more fragmented, which in their eyes gave them an even more powerful base of operations as per that old maxim:

“Divide and Conquer”

That reminds me of an interesting quote in the news this week:

“We have united our enemies, and divided our friends.”

Said of various US policies in action around the world.

I would be remiss here if I didn’t even mention the one exception, the one

that sponsored my own public school education, and which I thank daily for providing me with the best public education in the United States:

The US response to Sputnik.

The search for “The Best And Brightest” for “The Space Race” had a profound effect on my education, as the very first day of school a year later found The Best And Brightest of the U. of Illinois sent out to recruit The Best And Brightest from my grade school, and it was a combination of a lucky opportunity and the refusal to be out of such a program than led me to take every single “advanced class opportunity” that was available all the way from grade school to a high school diploma, and then to surf that wave of opportunity for a second time in college. I don’t think I would have graduated if not for such programs, school would just have been too boring.

You can read much more about this in my article on my education.

You learn to think in broad strokes with this kind of education in place of the “learn by rote memorization” education that suffices, or does it, when there is no such emergency.

They SAY we have an emergency now, but it is not an emergency in a sense that brings an emergency response, only emergency powers, as was predicted by George Orwell in “1984.”

THEY say that “1984” never happened. . .but it did, on schedule as President Ronald Reagan created “The Homeless,” spent trillions on unneeded military boondoggles to his war profiteer friends, and in the school system started to attack the “School Lunch Programs” by announcing that “Ketchup Is A Vegetable,” thus depriving millions, and millions, and millions of school children of one more aspect a “Universal Education” program was designed to provide.

Most of those who run this country literally have no idea just how much that one meal meant to millions of people, and the effects of removing one vegetable from that plate.

When you consider all the courses removed from our school systems, whether they might be courses of food or of instruction, you might be able to realize just how intentional the fall of US schools has been since the first laws were passed to racially integrate.

Many would compare this, as a nation, to:

“Cutting one’s nose off to spite one’s face.”

These people, who regale everyone, both locally and globally, with statements to the effect that the US is the best and brightest and most powerful nation in the world, economically and militarily, do not really have any idea what they are talking about simply due to the fact that our media are unwilling to tell them that the US has not been in the Top 5, Top 10, Top 15, etc., in schools for years, that the adult literacy rate in the US is such that about one half of the adult US population could be expected to read and follow an ordinary note of written instructions to get to a McDonald's for a purchase of lunch for an office staff.

Whether it is "1984" or "Brave New World," the illusion persists a lot longer. . .that we are the best, brightest, and greatest.

Copyright

I also speak in broad strokes when I talk about copyright, while a snowjob of details of dozens of US Copyright Acts would snow us.

There are only a half dozen copyright acts in all history that our current situation requires us to understand, the others failed, or were just "stopgap measures" to preserve the status quo until some struggle among "The Power Elite" was resolved enough to decide the exact way the public would be deprived of "the public domain."

Some would have you believe that copyright laws were invented by a hundred different countries, but the truth is that they were works of a single company who wanted to stifle The Gutenberg Press, that company was originally called "The Stationers Guild," and later on "The Stationers Company."

They had a virtual monopoly on the world of publishing for all the time of recorded history, and pretty much were those who wrote it, though perhaps not the real authors. . .though you might be just a bit surprised at how much difference being the final writer of the history of the world can be used to change things.

That monopoly was thoroughly destroyed by The Gutenberg Press from the middle of the 1400's onward.

More books were published between 1450 and 1500 than in previously recorded history, and the numbers kept doubling and redoubling.

Only the most powerful could afford even a single book before this new technology upset the applecart of the world.

Afterwards books were the province of everyone.

Entire religions of millions lost tightly held control of texts on which they were founded.

Entire generations learned to read, while not one of the ancestors had even considered it.

This was too much for The Stationers, and they proposed laws after laws after laws for 250 years of this nonsense of public literacy, and finally, in 1710, got one approved that stuck. . .several when approved had simply been ignored, both by the officials who should have enforced them and the people who should have obeyed them.

Thus, on a cold day in history, the number of "books in print" for The United Kingdom fell from 6,000 to 600, the stroke of a pen was quite literally the stroke of doom to The Gutenberg Press, and The Stationers now conrtolled all publishing in the UK and all offices were located in London. You know what this means if you have read any of Jane Austen's accounts of what it was like to go to London.

The trouble is that then other countries were pressured into doing the same thing if they wanted good trade relations with the UK and we should note here that the UK was then, "The Empire on Which the Sun Never Sets," truly the first worldwide superpower.

You should also be aware that economic warfare has always been the preferable method of war, and obviously still is today.

The whole Middle-East thing, from Lawrence of Arabia to today, has been about oil, no matter how much the perpetrators say there is a "no blood for oil" policy.

The whole immigration thing is to keep people who want to work for a living from doing so, so people who don't really want to work in that sense can keep getting paid for doing nothing. . .at least in a significant portion of their pay period.

We SAY we believe in everyone having a fair chance, and then we do all we can to prohibit them from entering "a level playing field."

I can't say enough here about Thomas L. Friedman's book:

"The Earth Is Flat."

The trouble is that “The Earth Is Flat” really only applies to the people who can read well in the languages of the countries willing to hire them, and I should add that only about 50% of Americans as per National Assessments of Adult Literacy (NAAL) of 1992 and 2003 were able to read at such levels.

This, in spite of the fact that 85% of them graduate high school.

This means that about 1/3 of all Americans graduate high school in such a manner that they still don’t have the reading abilities for absorbing the materials in the dozen or so books required of them, each and every year.

However, there are other people who want to compete for the jobs.

Immigration

Immigration is now a buzzword, simply because The United States is now so economically weak that it wants to protect its workers from competition from other workers willing to do the same jobs, longer hours, less pay, less benefits, etc., etc., etc.

“Protectionism” is being used to keep United States workers from a horde of other workers who would do more for less.

Yet United States workers are being paid so little that where your minimum wage worker could afford a one room apartment; there isn’t one single county left in the United States where this is possible as the last one was reported to have vanished several years back.

There are those at the top levels of government who now tell us it was never the intention of either The Minimum Wage Act or a Social Security system to provide the actual cost of living.

Tell that to the millions and millions of people who did live, and well enough, on the minimum wage and on Social Security until what we came to call “Voodoo Economics” or “Reaganomics” in which those at the top of the economic pyramids vote themselves advantages for tax breaks that cut their taxes by 2/3 or more, while shifting the burden to those with less.

“Tax the Poor to Feed the Rich.”

If you look at the heyday of United States Growth, you’ll find 93% income tax levels on the richest of the rich, now you can’t find a tax level, even before deductions, of more than thirty-odd percent as a result.

The rich always complained that the poor would, if allowed to vote in the

general elections, would vote themselves a free lunch.

Now it appears that this is ok, as long as it is for the rich.

The Neo-Conservatives have changed the rules to enhance themselves and their collective enterprises and families to the point where a tax on even the richest estates is being targeted in semantic wars that call them “Death Taxes.”

Here we are in a country that was founded on anti-aristocracy, and we are now creating our own version of “The Landed Gentry.”

The Landed Gentry

This is one of those things you should look up yourself, to find a number of sources that will give you an idea of what happened from the results of aristocracy that resulted in the fierce revolutions of America and France in the late 1700’s, after so money money was flowing from the bottom to the top for so many years.

You might even want to research places in which it was illegal for anyone but the nobility to even HAVE money, at least certain kinds of money, much less to own land, buildings, animals, etc.

In addition, you might find that there were certain societies when it was illegal for anyone but the nobility to even wear clothes of a certain style. . . .

Didn’t you ever wonder why Italian shoes are so pointy???

The Haves and The Have Nots

These laws were created simply to preserve the space between those we call the “Haves” from those we call the “Have Nots.”

It wasn’t enough to rig the game so it was nearly impossible to do anything but live the life you were born to, but it was legally in written laws that you couldn’t even own the money, land, clothing, or other accoutrements of the wealthy.

In The United States something else happened, they created a place where people were “socially mobile”. . .at least for a time, and a new place always had more “social mobility” than the olde places.

I can remember spending one Friday night with the richest kid from my school and that Saturday night with the poorest. . .not likely, at least today, but this was 50 years ago in a place about as far, far away from Washington,

DC, as you can get without crossing some salt water to get there, and still be in The United States.

However, as The United States “matured,” it became more and more a country like every other country, with more and more divisions for socio-economic stratification, the “nouveau riche” being kept out, by “The New York 400,” the Philadelphia “Main Line,” etc., etc.

Of course you are aware that it was illegal to even teach certain, and this still resonates in our schools today, people to read.

Imagine in “The Land of Opportunity” making it illegal to read!!!

Of course, it was illegal to own property, own companies, or most anything else, too, if you weren’t “free, white and 21” and male.

This isn’t all as far in the past as you might like to think, and it rears its ugly head when certain people are pressure not to do their voting in certain places, and UN observers are not welcome, even here in The United States.

In Conclusion

So now you hopfully know a little about my writing style, with an assortment of example that I hope will keep growing here in these little blog articles that may or may not become my epitaph.

I have to write them here, as few will publish them anywhere else that people can read them, and at last here you know you got them in the original form, not misquoted, quoted out of context, or in other instances quoted out of date.

It’s not that I don’t make mistakes, Heaven Forbid!, I make great big mistakes that you could fly a 747 through.

But I learn, I improve, and if I live long enough, perhaps I will be able to perfect these little articles enough that those who in my eyes try to distort them, will largely be unable to do so.

Usually I am happy if my first attempt gets me anywhere near 90%, in relation to what I am trying to accomplish. Sometimes I admit that I have to be happy with 50%, when I bite off so much more at one time than I can chew.

However, even if I start at 50%, and then go half way to my goal, then half way again, etc., it goes something like this:

50% 1st Try 75% 2nd Try 88% 3rd Try 93% 4th Try 97% 5th Try 98% 6th Try 99% 7th Try

I am not ashamed of this kind of growth rate level though we are supposed to pretend to the world that we did it very close to an exactly perfect performance the first time.

This kind of hypocrisy I don't want or need.

For those who do need it, I suggest you learn to judge a book on some other merits than it's cover. . .no one write perfectly, so you have to get used to the fact that you need your judgement to separate the wheat from the chaff.

Ay, there's another rub.

One of the great weapons of those who try to cloud the issues is simply to add so much more chaff to the conversation, drowning a reader in detail, that the reader is simply forced to shut off a whole range of input, including the parts the chaff purveyor may be afraid for you to know.

Watch out when someone who has been silent for a long time comes out with too much to digest all at once!

Not only does this tend to reduce the reading public, but it may also cause the "moderator" of the conversation to call a halt to what might otherwise have been very enlightening.

"Tis better to light a single candle than to curse the darkness"

But beware of the person who lights a whole forest of candles.

Anyone who doe not clearly state the purpose of their writing or speaking at the beginning or the end should be suspect, and true words must be spoken in between to support those clear points.

I cover lots of ground in what I write but each element supports the general structure of the point I am trying to make.

The point here is to tell you about my writing style, which I am hopeful I have done, even though I may have made you work in the process of understanding.

Reality Sleeves

reality.sleeves.txt

Reality Sleeves

by Michael S. Hart Internet User #199 Founding Member of Project Gutenberg, World eBook Fair & General Cyberspace

First Lady Laura Bush's visit to Mali is a perfect example for modern times of what sociologists call a "Reality Sleeve."

All that Mrs. Bush will see at the Nelson Mandela School could be said to be an illusion, other than the concrete walls. The mud has been covered with imported gravel, but only portions a visiting dignitary would be allowed to see were covered. That being so Mrs. Bush won't slip on the mud, at least officially.

Electrical outlets were installed in the school so Mrs. Bush's comfort would not be an issue via overheating, or other needed electrical conveniences. Water was imported for the vistors– but two of the water spouts for the school children were taken down so as not to be in Mrs. Bush's way.

Since there is no electricity in the area at all, a generator, hidden away where it would not be obvious, was brought in from an outside source.

Everything was painted, including graffiti, but none of any of the political nature that would offend visitors, all the trees and bushes suddenly turned green with overabundant watering in anticipation of the visit.

The children, who were expected to speak French, officially on the record, were immediately taught something to say in French for the occasion, heaven forbid that Mrs. Bush should find out they really speak their own African language.

As soon as the presentation was over, literally within hours– all the electrical fixtures, outlets, the generator, etc. were removed. . .and after four days of hectic illusion building of Mrs. Bush's reality sleeve. . .everyone and everything of such a nature that could have been removed was gone.

The trees and bushes are withering back to normal in a place– literally– where people sometimes have to walk great distances just to bring home enough water for their own bodies to work.

Source:
National Public Radio, via WILL-AM 580, ~4:30PM, July 1, 2007.

The following article had just been written and posted in this very week of the visit mentioned above.

You've all heard of Hitler, and perhaps of Mussolini, Hitler's counterpart in Italy, but what you perhaps are not aware of is the great efforts those two made to hide reality behind a wide variety of mechanisms from the very start of the Fascist ideal through to the bitter end.

The greatest example of this could well be the preparations to receive Hitler when he visted Rome during World War II. In an extremely narrow portion of Rome through which Hitler's trains would be moving, hence the term "sleeve," Rome was rebuilt via a long series of wonderful facades all the way from what today are called suburbs into the center of Rome, the train stations and a very narrow corridor surrounding them.

Everything was orchestrated to take place within boundaries of of this series of "reality sleeves."

Today we see all too much of the same thing, with world powers orchestrating events in such a manner as to remove homeless to other areas, mow the lawns, trim the bushes and trees, while a paint crew goes over the white and yellow stripes on streets.

This takes place even at colleges, who are supposedly teaching some variety of integrity along with the substantive material, and you can simply walk through most major campii, just before new student week, graduation, Mom's Day, Dad's Day, Homecoming and the like, and see not only preparations for the celebrated events taking place, but a "reality sleeve" that includes most of the above mentioned items, along with the best meals served all year long at the student housing facilities, etc.

Just a week or two before such events, things are different.

This also takes place at the very local levels, wearing what a whole culture knows as our "Sunday Best" to church, or what we might call our "Saturday Best" to mosques and synagogues.

Even those who preach at these intsitutions wear special stuff for special occasions. . .as if those who started the religion would have done so. Most of the modern religions were started by people who wore plain clothes, did not make a big deal more of public religious practice than private, and would not be in a comfort zone with all the hoopla attached to a fine clothing of the richest colors and materials, the various traditions we see attached to their religions after the fact, and a dogmatic attention to details that miss the point of the religion.

The same can be said of most governments, who claim to be with the public in mind, but the term "civil servant" translated to "civil master" and

“goverment of the people, by the people and for the people” perished from this Earth.

Garbage In. . .Gospel Out

I wonder if it makes YOU wonder that we don’t see garbage cans out in front or back of houses any longer. . . .

Have we hidden away all traces of garbage so thoroughly that a normal person never thinks about it any more. . . ? To points where it has become one of the intentionally hidden realities, the realities hidden by what Sociology calls reality sleeves?

Did this start as a response to the great New York City events of the garbage strikes in the early 1970’s, when the rulers of what should like to be thought of as The World’s Greatest City went toe to toe with the garbage men to a 15 round no-decision as to whether the city NEEDED the garbage men. . .or not???

It’s really hard to believe that The Big Apple should refuse a decent wage to someone whose work was so necessary, and yet it went on and on and on, heaps of garbage so high on sidewalks I couldn’t see over it, even if I jumped up in the air.

Not to mention the smell. . . !!!

Not to mention the rats. . . !!!

Did you know there are more rats than people in NYC???

Not to mention a number of other famous cities.

Today’s Version of Garbage

Today most cities, and not just those with one million people, have all sorts of rules about garbage. . .such as garbage cans requiring liners. . .a sort of temporary garbage can for yours so THEY never have to actually SEE the garbage any longer.

Not that they hardly ever touch the garbage cans any more, the whole thing is mainly done by robots now, and all the men have to do is make sure the garbage cans line up ok with the robots and the robots do all the rest.

Oh. . .and you can only leave the garbage cans out on garbage- day. . .you have to hide them behind or beside the house those other days. . .so it looks as if there is no garbage.

So. . .add it all up. . .you can't actually put garbage in the garbage can any more. . .you have to put it inside another can or plastic container, and even that now has to be containers a seal has been applied to. . .and you can only put the can on a street the day the garbage men come to pick it up.

And. . .of course. . .you have to say "sanitary engineer."

Today's Version of Human Garbage

Ever since the days of President Ronald Reagan, we have seen a new class of people at both the bottom and the top. . .we came to see the new class of "The Homeless" at the bottom, and came to not quite really see "The Gated Community People" on top of the new economic pressures of "The Trickle Down Theory," where money was given to those at the very top because they were the ones who knew how to deal with money, and thus with production as the source of money. . .or so they said. . .until we saw in a flash of revelation that the billions made by the "Thrifts," as "The Savings and Loan" industry was called, were faked, and the billions made by MCI were faked, and the billions of Enron were faked, and so on down the line except for the real worker types such as Donald Trump, Bill Gates, etc.

Today "The Homeless" are simply cleaned up off the streets and moved to other locations just as the trash and garbage are the week before some huge event is going to take place, along with the various painting, mowing, trimming, etc., mentioned above, and they are allowed to come back when it is all over.

If you haven't seen this for yourself, just watch the news for the next meeting of "The World Trade Organization" [WTO], this will become obvious to you if they continue to show it or even mention it. . .last time there were SEVEN MILES of fences from here to there to eliminate any possible reality interference a member of the World Trade Organization might see that might be an influence to keep that person from trying their damndest to increase the flow of money from the poor to the rich.

In all the time since 9/11, I have only heard one media person mention that the jobs of those working The World Trade Towers, the actual job definitions, were to make sure money flowed out of the poor regions of the world and into the rich, and that a decent explanation for the events of 9/11 could be made via an extremely simple look at the mission statements of companies & jobs located in The World Trade Center.

Just how much shelter does a meeting of the world trade powers need when it is meeting right in the middle of New York City's own power structure at the center of the United States power's structure at the center of the world's

power structure.

Well, we saw how much when the WTO met in Seattle and in other widespread locations. . .the world at large disapproves of WTO policies to such a degree that there is no place in the world, none at all, other than in secret, without having to have some battalions of police, military, FBI and CIA officers to keep a public presence away that might reflect the real people.

The Price at the Pump Versus The Price at the Brain

When I was a kid, gas and paperbacks were both just a quarter, plus tax. . . .

We've all heard just how desperate the situation is that keeps the price of gas at $3 a gallon, but we never hear a word from the media informing us that for the entire decade before JFK's inauguration the average price of a gallon of gas was equal to the average price of a paperback book, tax included.

Just dig out any of the old 1950's paperbacks from the attics, basements, or garages. . .and you will see the price of .25*acopyonvastmajorityofthemformostofthedecade*, *andthenlookintherecordsforthepriceofgas*....27 most years.

Now call up your local Borders or Barnes & Noble and ask for a price check on the new James Bond paperbacks that were out via the new movie version of Casino Royale. . .$14 and $15 and tax should still be included, just as it is with gasoline, so mine cost me $15.12 and $16.20, depending on which titles.

Gas went from just over a quarter to around $3. . .12 times.

Bond went from just over a quarter to around $16. . .60 times!

It becomes only too obvious when you look at it that books are not meant for our consumption as much as gasoline is!!!

"The Cult of the Amateur"

cult.of.the.amateur.txt

Part 1

"The Cult of the Amateur"

A reply to the complaints of the paid professional punditry on the subject of having lost their previously impermeable media monopoly they are just now

only realizing hit an immoveable iceberg quite a while ago with the Internet, cell phone, and iPod revolutions.

by Michael S. Hart Internet User #199 Founding Member of Project Gutenberg, World eBook Fair & General Cyberspace

“And The Band Played On. . . .”

The Titanics of world media crashed, full speed ahead, into these new media options years ago and that was called The Dot Com Bust.

These people STILL don’t realize that half of the world population that will ever buy cell phones already have done so; nor are their realizations of the world view in touch with the effects of such a change from one-way media to two-way media, but are still in shock that the Internet provided media coverage to bloggers that toppled “The Great and Powerful Oz” in the form of Dan Rather, while their news reports tried and failed, to make a fake story about toppling the statue of Saddam Hussein.

The fact that “The Emperor Has No Clothes” is becoming obvious for half the world population directly via their cell phones, they can see it for themselves, and can no longer be fooled quite so easily as the United States Congress was fooled by the faked “Tonkin Gulf Incident” that led to “The Gulf of Tonkin Resolution” that created The Viet Nam War” in a true homage to “You supply the pictures and I’ll provide the war” of the height of Yellow Journalism.

If you’ve been paying attention to the professional media pundits, then you’ve probably heard at least some of their complaining from their professional pulpits that their monopolies on information in the new world of communication are waning, and that this informing of the public is increasingly being done more on the order of that “of the people, by the people, for the people,” that was the ideal of the founding fathers of modern democracy.

According to the professionally paid punditry, they have done what anyone would have, could have, and should have done in the face of their admittedly “situational ethics” of their various times, but, in face of all that, I just wonder if perhaps these pundits should not have had more to say about many issues if not for bosses up an already crowded ladder of mostly prevention of stories going out.

“Prevention of Stories Going Out?”

Just ask anyone on the political beat at any media level, and they will likely

tell, off the record, and some even on the record, the number of important investigative journalism results that actually get refused for publication are DOUBLE the number they published.

Twice as many political revelations get withheld as published. . . just ask around. . .or so some research. . .you will find that Mr. Jack Anderson, perhaps the most powerful political reporter of the last century, said his work output was only 1/3 what it should be, mostly as a result of political and professional pressures, put on him in no uncertain terms, that such-and-so political figures were NOT to be discussed in light of what he had uncovered.

“The Historical Record”

The Encyclopedia Britannica is often cited as an example of a best result of the professional system, usually in contradistinction to the amateur efforts of Wikipedia.

However, Britannica’s spectacular failures to report on Einstein’s 1905 writings that fundamentally changed our understanding of this entire universe, along with their simultaneous refusal to change a centuries old attitude towards racism, the roots of World War One, just to name a few instances of brittle Britannica bias, should be enough reason alone to encourage other sources of information.

Marvin Minsky, arguably, “The smartest man in the world,” at least by the standards of Isaac Asimov, says that, “You don’t understand anything until you learn it more than one way.”

How can you learn anything more than one way if the professionals’ attention span is that of a myopic gnat?

What we need is MORE information sources. . .not less!

“The Future Is Not The Past”

Paid professional pundits predict the future based on the past and they make this mistake time and time and time again simply because they know it is the safe thing to do.

Britannica didn’t mention Einstein until around 1923.

He was on the front page of newspapers around the world for years, so what was the idea of not putting him in the Britannica?

Well, the truth may just be that the venerable Britannica was just too

invested in the world of Isaac Newton.

Then again there are the questions of Darwin, evolution. Piltdown, and a host of other political pressures on pundits at Britannica's desks, and others, including "The Monkey Trial" which was do blown out of proportion that most people forgot that Clarence Darrow was NOT the winner in that spectacular court case, to which thousands, even millions, of people paid more attention than we to Watergate.

Speaking of Watergate, do we have to be reminded that Bob Woodward was the lowliest of nobodies at The Washington Post, and how lucky we are [or unlucky, to those millions who would still prefer Nixon to have been re-elected for a third and fourth term, the law about such re-elections not withstanding]. . .how lucky we were that the story, like so many others in Washington Post history was not just killed outright by professional edict from above.

"A Professional Pundit". . .What Does That Mean?

The first thing you have to realize about the professional pundits is that they are not independent.

Not independent.

They start their jobs the same as all of us with layer after layer of bosses, bosses' bosses, middle management, top management and a whole layer of executive suites and owners above all that, meaning that every one of the layers must agree to get a story published.

HEADLINE!

Every One of the Layers Above Must Agree to Get a Story Published!

How much can actually get done when every one above you has to say "Yes" to every story you do, either implicitly or explicitly?

How much can actually get done when every one above you CAN SAY NO and kill your story.

Let's just say you are such a good reporter than 90% of your ideas get the green light from your boss, and 90% of his recommendations get the green light from the next boss, in line, and so on. . . .

90% of your stories get approved by your #1 chain of command boss 81% of your stories get approved by your #2 chain of command boss 73% of your

stories get approved by your #3 chain of command boss 66% of your stories get approved by your #4 chain of command boss 59% of your stories get approved by your #5 chain of command boss 53% of your stories get approved by your #6 chain of command boss …Mid-level Hierarchical Structure Lies Approximately Here… 48% of your stories get approved by your #7 chain of command boss 43% of your stories get approved by your #8 chain of command boss 38% of your stories get approved by your #9 chain of command boss 35% of your stories get approved by your #10 chain of command boss 31% of your stories get approved by your #11 chain of command boss 28% of your stories get approved by your #12 chain of command boss

Obviously the bigger the media giant you work for [and doesn't the majority still want to work for the Big Boys], the higher the odds are that there will be more levels of bosses you must appease.

Let's say your local media lies somewhere in the middle levels.

That would mean that just about half of the stories written by the reporters that have a 90% batting average, and whose bosses have a 90% batting average, etc., etc., etc., actually ever get published in your local media.

Obviously the higher up the food chain, the more likely your story is to be eaten by a higher level predator.

So, if you get your news from CBS, NBC, ABC, PBS, BBC, CBC, etc… the odds are that you rarely, if ever, hear much of anything on an order of competition. . .they all answer to the same kind of plain and obvious system. . .they usually give the same sound bytes more or less. . .more and more. . .even in the case of the BBC who used to be the flagship for saying what the others would not, could not or should not say.

However, since the BBC got into the money business with a reversal of cash flow that would have made "Scrooge McDuck" quite proud, it has limited itself to the more mundane in the world of news as has PBS when it also repositioned itself as a commercial network, and, I should add that, technicalities notwithstanding, it should be an awful lot more than obvious that both the BBC and PBS headed in an awful lot more of a commercial direction in the Bush II Era.

"Then the End Result is What?"

The end result, as with all new media technologies, is first a new wave of publication. . ."The Powers-That-Be" just cannot move fast enough, really don't WANT to pay attention to "New Wave" stuff and the result is that they

are like “The Titanic” for the first years of any new trend, running “full speed ahead” in a direction that’s no longer the direction they really want to go.

and. . .

It’s not as if there is a “vacuum” in the “New Wave” of publishing via the Internet, Podcasting, cell phones, etc. . .the rest of the world is just ignoring “The Olde Boye Networke” and moving on from a world that just barely exists for them any longer, the world for which “The Olde Boye Networke” is boss. . .level after lever as we saw above. . .to a world in which they can get a true first-person report from a variety of someones who do not have to say a pledge- of-allegiance to their megacorporate kieretsus before work each of their workdays until that dreaded day when they are “downsized” to a new location 6 feet under the ground on which they walked a walk precribed by their bosses, never the walks proscribed by bosses of bosses of bosses. . .”look for me tomorrow and you shall find me a grave man.”

Perhaps, if we, the people, are lucky, these people will write the record of all they were forbidden to write. . .in their last days, and we will finally have, albeit on their death beds. . .reporting from their own perspective rather than that of Big Brother.

///

“The Cult of the Amateur”

Part 2

Scientists versus The Media

by Michael S. Hart Internet User #199 Founding Member of Project Gutenberg, World eBook Fair & General Cyberspace

“The Cult of the Amateur”

A reply to the complaints of the paid professional punditry on the subject of having lost their previously impermeable media monopoly they are just now only realizing hit an immoveable iceberg quite a while ago with the Internet, cell phone, and iPod revolutions.

A second essay on “The Cult of the Amateur” concentrating on some aspects of professional scientists versus amateurs.

The Three Greatest Scientific Thinkers of the Last Millennium

When it comes to science names such as Einstein, Newton, Galileo, stand out

above all the rest when it comes to understanding those scientific aspects of the universe around us.

However, the world did not accept these as scientists at the time when they focused their imagination on things the rest of world's experts would sooner have left unexplored.

Einstein has been thrown out of school and did what many feel the greatest scientific work of the last millennium while he was just puttering around in his spare time.

If you feel Newton was more important than Einstein, that doesn't change things much, as Newton was also home away from school when he did what many feel to be his greatest work.

I presume I don't have to remind too many of our readers that the work of Galileo was so well received that he was put under "house arrest" for pretty much the rest of his life as a reward.

Note bene: Shakespeare was born the same year as Galileo and put the written word of the amateur right alongside these greatest of the scientific world, which will be mentioned in Part III of this series, which will include The Arts.

Galileo, however, amateur that he might have been when it came to the sciences, being much more of a worker in metals and the other materials of the age, making and selling his "military compasses" and other little gizmos in his own shop, literally turned world's perspectives in their heads in other ways, as he reinvented those telescopes from Flanders to the point they changed both the world of trade and the world of astronomy. . .but. . .in the process he changed the whole world of science itself. . .inventing what this modern world calls "The Scientific Method."

Galileo built new technologies for the purpose of research, and a publication of the results followed. . ."The Scientific Method."

However, it should never be forgotten that Galileo, no matter the intellect, the ability to build his own tools from scratch to the point of excellence that he outcompeted all professional artisans from the world around, no matter his ability to write up his work in a manner that still survives today as a guidebook for sciences not even invented yet in his time, and no matter the Inquisition, and his resistance to it. . .let there be no mistake that Galileo was an outsider, one of those our current "professionals" are yet calling for the removal of as amateurs.

In each of these cases the work was done outside an establishment of any educational or scientific community and purely as a matter of self-directed inquiry into the nature of the universe.

OK, you might say, but Einstein was a century ago, Newton was far beyond that, and Galileo might as well have been in the Dark Ages for all the good having been born after Gutenberg did him, and it could no longer happen this way in modern times.

The Greatest Scientific Efforts of the Modern Age

The Human Genome Project

The Computer Revolution

No room for amateurs in modern times???

How quickly the world forgets that we owe Craig Venter for making the Human Genome Project get up off its stodgy academic ass to do the research he wanted to do 6 years earlier, and was pretty much shown the door as a result.

Have we already forgotten that we owe The Computer Revolution for all intents and purposes to two garage tinkerers from Cupertino's reject pile who could see what no one else could see, just as the previous people in this list could see?

The Human Genome

If not for Craig Venter we would just now be finishing up the one first pass of mapping the human genome, one step at a time in the old-fashioned way, step after step, all those millions of steps– without anything like a plan, or even a flashlight to look ahead, to figure out which are the important parts to look at.

The comparable story from a century ago would be to disassemble a pyramid one stone at a time to figure out how it was put together and only then to follow the flashlight through the pathways to go to the places of most interest.

As far as *I* am concerned, no race can be said to have matured a step beyond the genetic rolling of the dice who has not measured, calculated, and reworked its own genetic structure.

Otherwise, we're less well planned than our racehorses, and roses they wear

in the winner's circle, not to mention our dogs, cats & entire hosts of other plants and animals we have bred better than we have bred ourselves down through the ages.

Even Mendel, The Father of Genetics, Was Thrown Out Of School

The last line of Mendel's transcript at University of Vienna:

"He lacks insight and the requisite clarity of knowledge."

Even so, years later, Mendel discovered the roots of genetics and published his results in 1866. . .the silence was deafening, just about as deafening as the silence from Encylopedia Britannica one half century later when Einstein shook down the tree of physics– the one that had been planted by Newton.

All of these three earthshaking events took place outside the all powerful ivory towers of academia, but at least Newton's teachers knew genius when they saw it. . .and, even rarer, accepted it.

Not so for Mendel.

Even though Mendel was elected Abbot of his monastery and wrote a very nice compendium of his genetic experiments that would stand, even to this day, his works were burned by the next abbot, and he was left to the vagaries of the winds of time.

Luckily for Mendel, and for us, his work survived elsewhere.

The trouble with having your work in religious libraries, is that religion does not follow logic, and the temporal church rulers of the religion, whether they be popes or abbots, may outlaw you and your work, and burn your entire life's work, and in previous days burn your life out of you, as well.

However, for 30 years Mendel's work languished out of sight, and, as they say, out of mind. . .until just about the time Einstein's school career ended. . .and he was tossed out as well.

And let us not forget Wallace and Darwin, who quite independently came up with theories on the origin of species, fittest survival, and the concept of evolution. . .while neither of these were what anyone could call an outcast, they were Victorian gentlemen, and, as such, did not do what anyone would call much work or school or have any real other kind of training or education.

Mendeleev, who bridged the gap between physics and chemistry, was an

outcast in his native Russia, even after his great success via his periodic chart of the elements, due to the fact that the Tsar didn't like him. Little good would it do the Tsar in a long run, as much good as it did all the rest who opposed such progress.

Yes, you can stop an idea for a while, but in the long run:

"There is no force stronger than an idea whose time has come."

That's right, if you can't compete with an idea's contents, then, by all means, any other means, ridicule its form, its author, and any other possibly attachable person, style, fashion, etc.

However, be forewarned, this is only a stopgap performance and it usually comes back to haunt the perpetrator. . .in spades. . . .

"Every strong intellect wants to be a guardian of integrity."

"Aristocracy of the intellect versus democracy of the intellect."

John Von Neumann did the great work for which he is famous in the pair of fields in which he is known, before he turned 25. He was one of the greatest mathemeticians of all time, but. . . .

Instead of continuing on these paths, he wasted his latest years, sadly to say, in the corridors of power. . .financial power, and, then later political power. . .but not learning anything more for which he would be remembered.

As per:

J. Bronowsky, The Ascent of Man

In regards to scholars, I would be remiss if I did not mention an "ear" written on the front of my high school alma mater:

"And gladly would he learn, and glady teach." The Oxford Scholar of Chaucer's Canterbury Tales.

The reason this must be brought up is because so many scholars of today refuse to teach what they have learned in any clear manner, but perfer to muddy the waters to help themselves appear brighter in comparison to their students.

My own idea/ideal of this is that students should pay teachers in proportion to their own success, that teachers should be paid the equivalent salary proportional to how their students do.

If you don't manage to teach much, you don't get paid much.

THAT should motivate teachers to a higher level of performance.

In fact, I think EVERY job should be paid according to a measured evaluation of performance over time. . .highway builders would be rewarded for highways that lasted longer, rather than an opposite philosophy of hiring them again sooner if the highway wears out.

Sometimes it seems as if the entire wage/salary structure of what we call "The Developed World" was created to avoid a relationship between performance and reward.

This is perhaps why the old money looks so disdainfully at member positioning of "The Nouveau Riche" or "Self-Made" persons in what they have previously consider their private domains.

The Computer Revolution

When I first learned I had access to the Internet back in 1971 it was as if one of those lights you see in the comics went off with a flash right over my head.

That very day I started talking about being able to carry library collections of the very largest size in one hand, but I had years to wait before Wozniak and Jobs made the first feasible computers I could use at home, quickly followed by CP/M machines powered by Gary Kildall's operating system, and eventually, because Kildall, as history tells us, was interested in too many other things, IBM chose Bill Gates to build their operating system, and I went that direction simply because I loved batch macro commands and working from a command structure that went from here to there rather than from there to here [PIP = Peripheral Interchange Program]. Yes I never really mastered "Reverse Polish Notation" either, for a new device known as calculator, and instead chose the competing place with an "Electronic Slide Rule."

However, without Woz and Jobs, we would have continued at a mercy of the people at IBM and the like, who said that the world didn't need any more than half a dozen computers, or Bill Gates who said we didn't need any more than 640K of memory.

Well, Bill was wrong about that, but he learned. . . .

You don't become the richest person in the world without learning a few things along the way.

By the way, Bill was a school dropout, just like so many others a world owes so much to, including those on this list, for whatever reasons they were not at school at the time of their inventions.

What If We Waited for Authoritarians to Make These?

You've most certainly heard experts argue and discuss everything, and still come to no conclusion.

Like the media editors of the previous "Cult of the Amateur," the authoritarians and the scholars rarely come to the action points.

The world of authoritarians and scholars is a world of inaction.

Even if every great invention or discovery took just 1% longer to accomplish for every year it was in development, that will mean a 70 year timespan will cut advancement by half!

Just as any investment broker what 1% per year means.

More Examples

Socrates, perhaps the smartest person of all time was an opposite of authoritarian, he invented logic and the syllogism so plebians could argue successfully against the sophists, and rhetorititians in the public assemblies, and they sentenced him to death for it, over and over and over again they sentenced him to death for it– but the first few times their state lasted a shorter span than of Socrates life, and he walked away a free man in the new state.

Yet Socrates kept his loyalty to those states, even to the point, as is so well told, of refusing to escape when his friends bribed his way out of prison, instead choosing to honor the law that had condemned him to death.

Socrates left behind a trail of the greatest philosopher of time, including his student Plato, and his student Aristotle, and, then even his student Alexander, just to mention one line, but look up the Stoics, the Cynics, etc., to see Socrates' overall effect.

But nothing overshadows his logic. . .his mathematics. . .or, his syllogism. . .for sheer impact on the world.

The Reason for Socrates' Impact

Simple. . .everyone could understand and use syllogisms. . . .

Not everyone could understand and use the works of Plato, and his student Aristotle.

Their world was an elitist school of thought.

Too elitist to change the world for the public.

///

“The Cult of the Amateur”

by Michael S. Hart Internet User #199 Founding Member of Project Gutenberg, World eBook Fair & General Cyberspace

Part 3

A reply to the complaints of the paid professional punditry on the subject of having lost their previously impermeable media monopoly they are just now only realizing hit an immoveable iceberg quite a while ago with the Internet, cell phone, and iPod revolutions.

The Structure of the Professional Versus Amateur World Systems

The Structure of the professional societies, associations, and an assortment of all other professional groups dates back to feudal, Dark Age times, in which everyone had their place and knew it and stayed in that place under threat of severe penalties.

In this system grew the guilds, legal associations of skilled and trained artisans, craftsmen, etc., from The Stationers Guild, who controlled nearly all the written records, to a wide variety of a number of guilds for various crafts in the making of goods of all sorts from leather, wood, metal, etc.

The guilds were an incredibly “insider” system of operation, with years and years of apprenticeship at a subsistence pay level, and then more years and years at the journeyman level, before members were finally allowed to hang out their own shingle and set up the shop of their dreams they had been working towards for decades.

You had to prove yourself worth their investment of training, and worthy of the secrets of their trades. . .years of insidering for the privilege of become one of the guildsmen.

From the highest levels of modern medical associations and levels of modern professors associations, the legal bar associations and all the rest of elitists, all the way down to the union member of the lowliest garbage collectors

union, dog catchers union or what you might call the lowliest sanitation engineering job, etc., all our modern professional associations come from feudal guilds, and this is evident from the first moment you walk in and see sheilds and escutcheons that would be more properly places on the knights of the Dark Ages.

The major premise of these organizations is to keep outsiders out and insiders in. . .let there be no doubt about it.

The worst thing that can happen to these organizations is for any of their members, or even recruits, to decide they could have the benefits of being outside the system rather than inside it.

A current example of this in the sports world is David Beckham of football [soccer] fame, who has jumped ship several times from an assortment of approved English clubs to foreign clubs and finally now to the dreaded Black Hole of sports, Los Angeles.

The world just isn't the same place when people can abandon their roots like that and simply go where people want them most, rather than staying where they belong.

Of course, sometime the case is just the opposite, as Einstein in great duress emigrated to the United States, not that he was ever really a part of the system from the word go, as mentioned in the previous portions of this series. The world just wasn't ready to accept an Einstein. . .at least "The Old World."

The same was true for Craig Venter, who kick-started DNA research after spending 6 years as a surfer, while he waited for the world to catch up far enough that he could demonstrate his thought in a more obvious and undeniable manner to a world of Human Genome who could not understand him, much in the same manner as the world of a century earlier could not understand Einstein, until an obvious "proof" of the curvature of space during the famous solar eclipse preceding 1920 made him a household word, except in Britannica.

Note: it took even took more than one of these eclipses to allow the more hard-boiled critics of Einstein to admit he was right.

In addition, one should note that this defense is still deemed an acceptable defense toward refusing any revolutionary change in an assortment of fields, both in the hard sciences, soft sciences or in the more artistic fields of endeavor.

In the world of music we have Mozart, and a quick look at Amadeus [the

movie] gives a look at just how much of an outsider he was.

Not to mention Beethoven, who shocked the world by putting in the scherzo dance where the minuet and trio had been enshrined.

And yet everyone remembers the scherzo in Beethoven's Ninth but a real expert is required to differentiate all those clones of more minuets and trios of previous eras.

The Facts versus the Propaganda

Propaganda. . .an interesting word. . .simply meaning something a movement has produced to propagate itself. . .advertising. . . .

Look up the roots of The Office of Propaganda the Catholic Church

used for centuries. . .try this quotation as a starting point for your searches AFTER you simply look up "Office of Propaganda."

Extraordinary gifts are not to be rashly desired, nor is it from them that the fruits of apostolic labors are to be presumptuously expected. Those who have charge over the Church should judge the genuineness and proper use of these gifts, through their office not indeed to extinguish the Spirit, but to test all things and hold fast to what is good. (cf. Th. 5:12 and 19-21)."

Indeed, the "extraordinary gifts" given to such persons mentioned above are often the focus of a great deal of jealously in sacred, secular, political, physical, and other arenas. Of all mentioned above, perhaps Isaac Newton was the least persecuted for his.

I won't even go into such "extraordinary gifts" as Joan of Arc or other more churchly related matters, but it becomes obvious in an all but undeniable manner that when Vatican II comments referred: "not indeed to extinguish the spirit" but "extinguish the spirit" is what indeed what the purpose of said officials actually was.

It becomes equally obvious when/if you do your research that this more modern version of the guilds in existence today via the ALA, AMA, MLA, ABA, and most of the professional organzations, are not merely organs of information, but organs of misinformation and of disinformation. . .and. . .well, just plain propaganda.

Just read the little pamphlets libraries hand out on copyright as provided by the various publishers associations to see the biases these people are willing to state as facts under the seals of the organizations in question.

They should be ashamed to perpetuate such outright misinformation in the name of their members, their organization, or just a plain offense against truth.

What If THEY Got Their Way?

What if Mozart had bent his talent to the mainstream?

What if Galileo had be silenced by The Roman Catholic Church?

What if Martin Luther's 95 Theses had never been published?

What if Gutenberg had not invented interchangeable type?

What if Newton had followed in Aristotle's footsteps?

What if Einstein had followed in Newton's footsteps?

What if Woz and Jobs believed only 6 computers were needed?

What if everyone believed in Bill Gates 640K?

What if Tim Berners-Lee had followed Archie and Veronica?

The oxymoronic truth of all this is that each of these guilds was started by someone who lived outside the box, who created the new revolutionary idea or ideal that founded the new field.

In fact, the term "revolutionary" dates back hardly any further a date than Galileo, to his immediate predecessor, Copernicus, whom we have now enshrined for his "Revolution of the Celestial Orbs," but who was not so well received in his own day, even though that day coincided with Martin Luther, The Gutenberg Press, etc.

Each of the persons listed previously, and hundreds, or thousands more we own an incredible debt to, were pretty much ostracized in their own time for their incredible gifts. . .not only the gifts, as it were, of their own, but for their gifts to humanity.

Thus we see "revolutionary" works have created the world in which we are living, step by step, throughout the ages against the will of whatever "powers-that-be" have ruled against them, from early, to middle, to modern history.

Each age thinks it is the "end all, be all" of all civilizations, and wants to freeze everything in the current mold, defeating all attempts possible to make

change, since any change is likely from the perspective of the “powers-that-be” to be a threat to them in the sense that they made it to the top under the current laws for making it to the top, and usually these laws have been redrafted, rewritten, even originated, by these “powers-that-be,” to benefit themselves at the expense of all others.

Remember: the goal of the guilds was always their own benefits– not the benefits to the world at large.

The same is true of their descendants.

You would be surprised at just how many of our organizations from the modern perspective have not changed in essence from those now in our ancient history.

The basic idea/ideal is US VERSUS THEM, and there is never enough for the membership, there are no objective standards as to ENOUGH IS ENOUGH as in the case of “The Stationers Guild” and copyright.

I have written about copyright extensively elsewhere, so I should only mention the broadest outline of that history here.

^***.* History of Copyright Law

The general idea/ideal of copyright is that it is always legal to copy until the power to own copies trickles down to the masses.

Before The Gutenberg Press there were no restrictions to copying, other than the fact that only the most elite of the wealthy, and, the most elite of the educated, were capable of making copies, so no laws were passed against their right to do so, just as no laws were written against the VCR when only millionaires had them.

The Gutenberg Press changed the world as much as any invention of the last millennium, particularly from the perspective of elitist versus the masses. . .most inventions before this targeted a rich portion of a population, usually only the top 1%, and the effects only related directly to that top 1% and perhaps only that 1%.

However, unlike most previous inventions, The Gutenberg Press had an effect on the rest of the world much greater than any previous inventions other than the basics of fire, leverage, agriculture– things that almost anyone could take advantage of.

The Gutenberg Press changed books from something that cost a lot, the

average books cost as much as the average family farm, to the price that allowed wagonloads of books to arrive at marketplaces.

The result was far greater than anything anyone imagined!

For one, the literacy rate escaped from that top 1%, and suddenly control of information that had been kept secret with low effort, and just one result was "The Protestant Revolution" in which that most powerful single entity of The Western World, "The Holy Roman Catholic Church," was toppled from its peak of power by the works of just one person, Martin Luther, multiplied by the power of The Gutenberg Press.

However, the ones who made the biggest stink about disempowerment of the previous monopoly power was not The Roman catholic Church, but rather The Stationers Guild, who had held a virtual monopoly, since time immemorial, down through their various incarnations.

The result was, after 250 years of lobbying, "The Copyright Law."

250 years of failures. . .and finally one became law, written for and by The Stationers Guild.

Galileo's predecessor, Giordano Bruno, was burned at the stake in response to his astronomical observations and reports.

Galileo, at the age of 70, was commanded to appear before "Office of the Inquisition" in Rome, notwithstanding his age or infirmity and at his own expense. He was tried in one day, with "evidence" that had been assembled for over 30 years, and twice shown racks, and other instruments of torture as they were to be used on him.

He was found guilty, sentenced to the harshest house arrest, with no ability to publish, or even speak to Protestants.

As a result Descartes stopped publishing in France, moved himself to Sweden, while Galileo decided to continue writing his book the Inquisition had interrupted. . .it was only published years later and many countries away.

Thus ended The Scientific Revolution in the Mediterranean and the course of this history would continue only in Northern Europe.

The same year Galileo died, still under house arrest, was born in England a child named Isaac Newton.

"The Cult of the Amateur"

Part 4

A reply to the complaints of the paid professional punditry on the subject of having lost their previously impermeable media monopoly they are just now only realizing hit an immoveable iceberg quite a while ago with the Internet, cell phone, and iPod revolutions.

by Michael S. Hart Internet User #199 Founding Member of Project Gutenberg, World eBook Fair & General Cyberspace

The Media. . .versus. . .The Media???

Would a television executive rather lose hundreds of millions not made because he failed to green light a show that would have been a smash hit rather than be proven wrong in his choice?

This question is actually being played out as we speak, via a new phenomenon that is reviving dead pilots for TV shows, and putting them on the Internet to try for an audience the television owners were unwilling to court in the first place.

At first this seemed like a win-win scenario, as the TV producers could make some serious money on shows that would otherwise rust, collect dust, etc., stashed away in some forgotten storehouse.

Perhaps you are already aware that the majority of movies made in all history have been lost due to being tossed out, lost, or kept in the worst kinds of storage conditions, and then Jack Valenti– the same one who said that home video was to Hollywood as was the “Boston Stranger” to the single woman, and then proceeded to make billions from home video once he realized just how wrong he was– pleaded with the public on Oscar (R) night to look for treasures, left under beds, in garages or attics, and to return them to this Hollywood industry who had so callously thrown them away so these unmeasurable treasures could be revived and reconditioned to sell to the public once again.

Well, this same sort of thing is being played out in the world of television right now, as people are scrambling to find old pilots that were never made into series and to give them another chance, via the Internet, which costs virtually nothing compared to those hundred pound movies shipped to all major theaters every week.

So. . .what is stopping them?

The TV executives who blackballed the shows in the first place!

These top executives can't stand the idea that some show they had labeled as a flop before it ever got going could become a hit.

The result would be that people will realize these top executives don't always know what they are doing.

So the result is that the top execs are putting an end to this in rapid fashion before many of you even knew it was happening.

Putting an end to something that could blossom into the next show such as "Friends". . .which was almost blacklisted. . .a billions and billions of dollars show. . .and the executive who blacklists such a show might find himself tossed out into the gutter, with a private blacklist of his own of people who will never hire him.

So, for the good of the executives, and the not-so-good of public access to these shows, and the very not-so-good losses of billion dollar TV revenues to the networks, it would appear that we could miss out on this opportunity.

There is a name for this kind of attitude. . .it is called SPITE.

"Spite" is a word usually reserved for small children who hate to lose so badly that they will destroy their own chances of success rather than let someone else defeat them.

"Spite-TV" might just be the latest trend in television executive behavior, once again proving that those who run the bit networks, such as depicted in the movie "Network" [highly recommended!] are just as childish.

And Not Just Television Networks. . .Even Car Racing Does This!

I doubt if many of you know much about automotive turbine engines or their mostly unwritten history, but at one time it appeared as if turbine engines would revolutionize at least certain aspects– and one of these engines nearly won "The Indianapolis 500" and it was outlawed before the next race to make sure it never won.

Turbine powered cars had been allowed for years, but none had the ability to qualify until veteran Parnelli Jones did it in 1967 in which he led nearly 90% of the laps until only 4 laps to go, when a plain vanilla bearing died in the rear end and Jones coasted to a stop just short of the pits. . .however, there would be no next year's rematch, as the rules were changed to eliminate it.

By the way, the turbine engine used in Parnelli Jones' car was no special deal. . .it was a standard helicopter engine. . .and that meant too much of a

threat to the standard cylinder engines which were the power base of Detroit.

These events took place in the days when Indy 500 cars were moved from the huge cylinders of the old Offenhausers engines to a less massive, and thus more responsive, engine, and body, of Formula 1 racing cars after the likes of Jimmy Clark came over the the U.K. to teach us poor colonials a thing or two about racing, even when the racing was done on a silly little closed track with only left turns and no hills, no nothing. . .a very boring racecourse.

The difference is that you can't rule out a winner, but you can a second place finisher. . .and Andy Granatelli's turbine car was a runner up. . .not a winner. . .and thus history was changed and a turbine car, with only one serious moving part [some people count ball bearings as moving parts. . .and, as luck would have it, the reason the turbine car lost was a failed bearing].

Of course, the same thing happened to pole vaulters when they got to the limits of stiff poles and had to use something flexible to jump higher. . .for years the flexible poles were outlawed.

Not to mention what happened when calculators first appeared, and were banned from the classroom because students could not learn a thing if the calculator did all the work. . .I'm sure any similar events concerning the introduction of the slide rule got the same or similar treatment.

All you have to do to stop a new kind of engine technology from a racing career is to mandate a certain kind of fuel that the brand new engine doesn't run well with and you eliminate competition.

Without appearing to have obviously aimed at that elimination.

In states such as mine, where there is only one city's population that is over a million, they consistently pass laws based on city populations. . .taxes. . .ordinances. . .etc., that are targeted, but not obviously, at giving Chicago either an advantage or rough times for certain legislative agendas.

In each of these cases those making the rules can say, pretending to do so in all honesty, that everyone is playing under the rules of the game. . .the same laws apply to everyone. . .when the real case is that they do NOT apply equally to everyone.

These rule makers are usually the type who played the game in the early years in the local school "Student Council" or whatever, so it might be worth the while of those who have the opportunity for watching such events to take a little time to see how obvious the ploys are when the politicians are young, and then how little the change has been, other than polishing up their act,

but not moral fortitude, when they get to the big time.

In Conclusion

What we see “the-powers-that-be” doing is situational ethics in a number of famous cases when they cannot win against a new idea:

“There is no force greater than an idea whose time has come.” and thus their response when unable to compete fairly is being unable also to keep to their stated morality, legal standing, etc.

“Those unable Tilt the table.”

“The-powers-that-be” thus void their own laws, rewrite them over, and over, and over again, to continue their dominance when masses of the public could have the advantage of a new technology.

This is particularly evident in the case of copyright, where very few copyrights were ever renewed [90% expired after a first term] and yet not only were the copyright terms extended, over and over and over again, but the need for renewal was eliminated, thus any hope for the public domain has been shattered, even though 10% is the average portion of copyrights ever renewed, and the fee was a merely nominal along with minimal paperwork and and extra year or two in which to file for the extensions.

The result is that the publishing industry, from end to end has a hyperinflationary spiral that has taken the price of the averages of paperback markets to a billion people from around $.26 and the price included tax, to a price of over $16, tax included, in that same period of time as a gallon of gas went from $.26 with tax to $3 with tax. . .Oh! How the news media would pounce on the story, if it were gas that cost $16, never mind the book prices.

“Power corrupts, and absolute power corrupts absolutely.”

The more money that goes into the publishing empires that mergers and megamergers have created, the more money flows into lobbying, and the longer and longer and longer copyright has become, until, just recently, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in a case that was at one time labeled “Hart v Reno” [yes, me] and later called “Eldred v Ashcroft” that The U.S. Congress could make copyright as long a period as they wanted via continuing extensions in SPITE of their U.S. Constitution reading “limited period.”

The most famous quote from Hello Dolly is : “Money, pardon the expression, is like manure. It’s not worth a thing unless it’s spread around, encouraging young things to grow.”

The result of the opposite is that the rich are now richer in all measures than they have ever been before, absolute wealth and the percentage of the wealth they own and control.

“The rich get richer, the poor get poorer.”

This sentiment has been echoed by presidents, poets, and Prophets down the ages, as follows:

U.S. President Andrew Jackson, in his 1832 bank veto, said:

“when the laws undertake… to make the rich richer and the potent more powerful, the humble members of society. . .have a right to complain of the injustice to their Government.”

U.S. President William Henry Harrison said, on October 1, 1840:

“I believe and I say it is true Democratic feeling, that all the measures of the government are directed to the purpose of making the rich richer and the poor poorer.

Percy Bysshe Shelley wrote in 1821, in A Defence of Poetry:

(not published until 1840) argues that in his England,

“the promoters of utility” had been able “to exasperate at once the extremes of luxury and want. They have exemplified the saying, `To him that hath, more shall be given; and from him that hath not, the little that he hath shall be taken away. The rich have become richer, and the poor have become poorer. . . .”

Matthew 13:12 tells us the same from two thousand years ago:

“For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath.”

However, it should be obvious that not only the “powers-that-be” have taken notice of this situation, but also more down to Earth writers such as F. Scott Fitzgerald, who included the following:

“One thing’s sure, and nothing’s surer. The rich get richer and the poor get. . .children.”

To conclude in the same spirit as the previous quotations. . . .

For those who would prefer to see that literacy and education continue to wallow in the mire, I can only say that a silence on your part creates its just reward. Your expertise dies an awful death when it is smothered by hiding your light under a bushel, or under any other covering, howsoever named.

Matthew 5:15

Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

Mark 4:21 And he said unto them, Is a candle brought to be put under a bushel, or under a bed? and not to be set on a candlestick?

Luke 8:16 No man, when he hath lighted a candle, covereth it with a vessel, or putteth it under a bed; but setteth it on a candlestick, that they which enter in may see the light.

Luke 11:33 No man, when he hath lighted a candle, putteth it in a secret place, neither under a bushel, but on a candlestick, that they which come in may see the light.

No Contest: eBooks Are Winning!

A Reply To All Those Pundits

by Michael S. Hart Founder Project Gutenberg

The pundits all ask, “Why aren’t eBooks a success?”

But their queries show a ridiculous bias when their form and content always come down to the dollar.

The almighty dollar.

What If A New Product Just Doesn’t Cost Anything?

If the pundits had asked the same way about success for The Gutenberg Press, they should have spoken in just about the same manner, since at Gutenberg book pricing the new books cost only a small fraction of one percent of the price of pre-Gutenberg books.

Thus, the total cash paid out for these new fangled books was nothing compared to what price would have been paid under the old manuscripting systems.

Anyone could have simply said that the new books in question are failing,

simply because they are not a major factor in the current world cash flow.

BUT. . .they ARE a major factor in information flow today just as they were in Gutenberg's time when an unknown monk named Martin Luther tipped those world ruling Catholics on their heads with little more in his day than what people use Kinko's for today.

Multiple copies of Martin Luther's 95 Theses made a new fangled way around the world of this day, using nothing more than a new technology for copying.

Exactly the same thing is happening with eBooks.

The average eBook literally doesn't cost anything!

Just one single Project Gutenberg site out of those hundreds or thousands around the world hands out an approximate 3 million eBooks requested each month– all given away free of charge as Project Gutenbergs have been doing since before the pundits ever heard of the Internet or the World wide Web.

The price of eBooks is nearly nothing, as it a cost for storing them.

As I have been writing this series of articles in a mid-2007 timeframe, I have often been wearing a few USB RAMsticks around my neck that literally do hold enough data to include every word in every book the average U.S. public library contains, 30,000 books.

This cost me under $100, as I bought some 8G sticks for $60 and 4G sticks for $30, and it takes 12G for the storage of 30,000 books of a million characters for the average book.

Even if someone were to GIVE you 30,000 books free, and pay for their delivery to your door, what could you possibly do with 15 tons of books, at one pound for the average book?

First you would need a rather large building to put the 15 tons of books in.

Cost: millions of dollars, it has to be sturdy.

Second you would need 30,000 inches of shelving for the books, which would also need to be very sturdy, that's nearly half a mile of shelving, $5 per inch.

Cost: $150,000 just for the shelving.

Ask any head librarian, and they can tell you above expenses are actually very conservative.

There Are Millions of eBooks Out There

However, 30,000 eBooks is just a drop in the bucket compared to the millions of downloadable eBooks.

My own personal estimate is that we are well on our way to 5 million eBooks in existence.

Let's suppose you want just one million eBooks.

Under $200 for the terabyte of hard drive to store, in uncompressed format, under $240 for the outboard version of the same drives.

2.5 million eBooks if you use compression.

Unless you found enough petty cash lying around for the above mentioned 30,000 book collection, you are probably not really interested in the costs for the 1 million to 2.5 million we are talking about now.

The fact is that storing a million books would cost about 33 times as much as storing 30,000.

2.5 million would cost nearly 100 times as much.

And those are presuming the books and delivery were all free of charge.

The Point

The point is that all these pundits are refusing to consider the one thing taught all the business folk at the very beginning: The Cost/Benefit Ratio.

None of the pundits would dare make calculations of these figures with a slide rule.

Why not?

Because the cost/benefit ratio is way too low.

Slide rules are out.

Why?

Because they don't give as much bang for the buck.

BUT. . . .

If you set The Wayback Machine for 35 years ago you will see that the

pundits, MBA's, and all the rest, were at a total loss when it came to calculators.

You could hardly PAY them to use calculators and at a minimum price of $100, and a maximum of $500, the pundits and MBA's just ignored them altogether.

Pretty much the same way they are doing with eBooks in modern times.

However, they don't get it that when they search up something on Google, and they DO get Google, it had not yet dawned on them they're really searching one great big huge eBooks Google has compiled from some zillion pages of various sites.

With all the searching MBA's do, you'd think one of the things they would understand is the value of an awfully large database to search.

But they don't get it.

Either that, or they want to leave the construction and maintenance of that database to someone else.

However, they probably are not aware that in nearly every large business there is a library, a complete library in the sense that it includes a librarian– someone to order books, catalog them, look up data, and send the books out to the company officers when they are requested.

These commercial libraries do not come cheap.

The MBA's should be aware of how much data is added every day to the electronic libraries of the world, and how much of that could be included in their own little library at minimal additional expense.

Yet they are happily allowing, even encouraging the construction and maintenance of such libraries by a completely alien business structure, even though an assortment of business decisions is made based on a variety of outputs from these alien sources.

And if you think there is no bias to the output the various search engines present. . .think again!!!

This should be fairly obvious to anyone using every single example of search engines, from those with a commercial bias, to those who obviously sell spaces at the top of their listings, whether it's actually meeting the terms of your search or not, to some in which the bias is actually built into the search

of the information in the first place.

The Second Point

Why would anyone who spends over $100 on books in a given year not invest a similar amount in a million books they can have on site?

Why?

To avoid those biases listed above, for one.

To see the information in its original context.

Anyone basing any kind of decision on search engine results should know enough to follow information to its source and not just read the footnote, snippet, or pundit commentary.

Decision making is what those zillion dollar execs' salaries are paid for, at least on the reasoning in their contracts and other paper explanations. . . .

So why then, in the name of rational decision maker philosophies, would you not want to provide the big picture people with the real thing?

If you feed them pre-digested pablum, you should be aware of altering their decision making processes.

Of course, that's just what a lot of businesspeople do these days, but we don't talk about that. . . .

As With All Revolutions, from the Ground Up

The current Information Revolution, just all like a revolution in any other framework or any other time in history, is only going to work as a ground up to the top enterprise, not from the top down.

The Gutenberg Press, if left out to the upper class to decide, would have been burnt at the stake along with Herr Gutenberg and all those who wanted to see a public version of The Bible and Catholic books of a previously "private" nature. [Footnote]

so too, with the modern day pundits and publishers, both agreeing that electronic libraries have failed even before they have really come into existence.

However, as terabytes are now becoming a new latest "least common denominator," and their cost falls to under $100 per million eBooks, there is

no reason a “personal computer” is not a “personal library” for all intents and purposes.

True, you can search a million eBooks fast with the various mainframe search engines, but most books on the hit list from Google Book Search, etc. will not be easily downloadable and usable at home.

Hence the great value of having just a few millions of your favorite books already at home when you run out of context in the “snippet world” or want to do some actual cutting and pasting from those books.

The Neo-Industrial Revolution

Project Gutenberg was simply the first example of a Neo-Industrial Revolution that marked low expenses, so low, in fact, that even without money, Gutenberg has been able to maintain the strongest e-Libraries in the world, counting combined quality & quantity.

This example has been followed by millions of sites around the world that provide wonderful services by the same exemplary structure of sharing something a price just doesn’t relate to in terms of cost of an item in production time, in warehouse storage or in

delivery to either the wholesaler or retailer or to the ultimate consumer. . .no taxes, no inventory or any of those other dozens of items the beancounters

use to justify the ridiculously high price of books since the middle of the last century, when averaged prices of paperbacks was the same as those averaged prices of gasoline we have heard about so much over the intervening years.

Rather than following the hyperinflationary spirals of all of the major brands of paperbacks, eBooks on the whole have remained free of all charges while a copy of the latest James Bond novel will cost these same readers about 60 times as much today as back a half century ago, tax included, while as an average the cost of gallons of gas is only 12 times as much as it was at the time.

Why did one price increase to 60 times the original cost while the other only increased to 12 times and all the media attention is on the inexpensive one?

The answer?

Personal bias.

The media won’t report on its own hyperinflation.

There are so many stories on the prices of gasoline in various regions that you can't keep track of all of them in any sense at all, too many to count.

Yet I have never seen one single story listing book prices in any sense at all, either from perspective of just today's costs or as compared to when prices of paperbacks and gasoline were the same, which was when I first started my serious career in reading.

Obviously all the Baby Boomers must have had a book experience of similar origins, but you never hear a single report from any of them in the media.

Not one!!!

In all the years of reporting by the likes of Peter Jennings, Dan Rather, Tom Brokaw, McNeil/Lehrer and all the rest of that "Greatest Generation," and now the likes of Katie Couric and her cohort, or even a generation before with Walter Cronkite, Ed Murrow's successor, or Harry Reasoner, Eric Sevareid, or the entire groups at 60 Minutes, Dateline, etc., I have never seen a single report mentioning that the cost of these books is hyperinflationary.

Tuition? Yes.

Textbooks? Yes.

Gasoline? You bet!

Food? Yes.

Housing? Yes.

Taxes? Yes.

Not a word about just plain paperback books.

/// CUT HERE ??? ///

How can you possibly trust the publishing industry, or any industry for that matter, to report honestly concerning itself?

Of course, this is why we have "revolving door" for industry and government officials to change places, and keep on dancing to the same tune as they fleece the citizens of America and other countries.

And we wonder why the masses hate those World Trade Organizations, the World Intellectual Property Org. and all those other organizations, whose purpose is merely to funnel more and more money from the poor, no matter

where they are in the world, to the rich, no matter where THEY are in the world.

Electronic money just allows more and more of this.

Here is why eBooks just don't fit in to megaplans.

What If A New Product Just Doesn't Cost Anything?

1. You can't add it to the Gross National Product.

2. You can't tax it.

3. It's harder to regulate as it is not part of an order of trade regulations.

These examples have long been used to devalue quite a large number of products or services of countries the evaluators wish to denigrate.

For example the United States is the only developed country without a national health plan, so the U.S. takes great pains to evaluate its health service in a very costly and expensive manner, even for simple operations such as an appendectomy, while rating an appendectomy in other countries as of little value, simply because it is part of national health plans.

However, with eBooks it is even easier because vast majorities of eBooks in every country in the worlds marketing lists of books are given away free and it just doesn't fit in models of limited distribution, as have been the de rigueur rules of civilizations, all the way back to the dawn of our history.

The world just doesn't want to accept free books or free anything else, for that matter, the change was just too great for THEM to understand, just as that change from one-at-a-time manuscript book copying a half millennium ago when Johannes Gutenberg upset a whole world of apple carts dating all the back back to the Garden of Eden.

This was the very first example of mass production!

The very first example of interchangeable parts!

The first example of a compound leverage machine!

The very beginning of The Industrial Revolution!

And it is all happening again with eBooks!

There was a literacy revolution then. . .and now.

There was a The Scientific Revolution then and now.

There was The Industrial Revolution then, and there will be a “Neo-Industrial Revolution” now. . .as it becomes more and more obvious that more and more of the world’s products can be manufactured well on an assortment of inexpensive home computers.

Every month thousands of new eBooks appear. . . .

Every year new “3-D Printers” appear than can print out more and more kinds of solid objects at home we used to have to rely on outside manufacturers.

These changes, both in the virtual world such as an eBook library, and now in the physical world with a wider and wider assortment of home CAD and CAM with more and more flexibility in terms of materials and the size of the objects manufactured, signal a huge change that the world is barely able to conceive in its mind but which is happening in an ever widening set of circles as exemplified by MIT’s FABLABs, and other more commercial examples of similar products, and product production arrays.

CAD = Computer Aided Design CAM = Computer Aided Manufacturing
FABLAB = FABrication LABoratory

In each of such cases, larger and larger numbers of products are moved from the realm of manufacturing, and into the realm of at home creation.

Just as anyone with a computer can create an eBooks collection and send it out to the whole world, this is now true for an ever increasing number of people with CAD/CAM computers that used to cost millions– but now cost no more than the original IBM PC-AT.

What Changed?

What changed half a millennium ago was the need for an elite class to produce all books at a high cost, so high that the average book cost as much as did a family farm in the average European community.

When the cost of these books fell to literally some small fraction of a percent of their previous cost, there suddenly was a revolution in literacy, and it was no longer just a most elite 1% who could read.

This changed everything!!!

The Catholic Church fell to the Protestants.

The Bible became the property of the parishoners.

The political powers could no longer rewrite again, and again, and again, and use revisionism as a huge strategy over hundreds of years. . .though they are seemingly unwilling to stop trying. . . .

Education because the province of The Middle Class, a class that had never even existed before.

Once this Middle Class was established, they made a serious contribution to The Industrial Revolution– which made them even stronger.

The Rich Get Richer, The Poor Get Poorer

Today we see the same financial trends and those in the years preceding The Gutenberg Press, and we see the same possibilities opening up for revolutions– both physical and intellectual. . . .

The time has come when YOU can own a million books, simply by adding $100 to the cost of your computer.

The time will soon come when a billion books are on the Internet, and the Internet libraries include an entirely new section of items you can actually MAKE on your computer for your own consumption, physical items. . .manufactured items. . .even to the points of making their own manufacturing plants.

A machine shop that makes machine shops. . . .

How many eBooks does it take for the pundits to get the point that eBooks are here to stay?

How many 3-D Printers?

Today there are already millions of eBooks online.

Is it possible the pundits don't really get it?

Or is is more likely that they DO get it and are in some kind of modality that they think requires them to at least pretend it is not happening and at most to take an active participation in preventing these eBooks from getting the publicity they deserve.

Certainly the publishers of Gutenberg's time knew a deepseated fear, shown by their 250 years of effort to get laws passed against The Gutenberg Press, and that these efforts continue to this day, using just the same responses to

prevent new technologies from making Neo-Industrial Revolutionary copies as their ancestors did to prevent Industrial Revolutionaries from making too many copies in their time.

Information is the great enemy of politicos around, and across the various world strata, and they do an enormous amount of work to keep information a close to the vest protected quantiy in an Information Age that is capable of informing half the world in just a single day of any secret that gets out, as half a world now has active cell phones.

This is why it was so important to keep the Scooter Libby's of the world out of jail so they should not be subjected to the temptation to tell the secrets, and there are plenty of secrets to tell.

For those who believe the world is their oyster and no one else's the idea of everyone having a library containing nearly every book over 30 years old just drives them crazy, but that was the legal situation a century ago when the average U.S. copyright could last 28 years without renewal, and 90% of the times there was no renewal even though it was purely some nominal process with a purely nominal fee.

Today, THEY want to insure that NO BOOK EVER ENTERS

THE PUBLIC, unless the copyright owner goes through a similarly nominal process.

Today the idea has been reversed!!!

Instead of a nominal process to KEEP COPYRIGHT, the reverse is true, a nominal process to public domain which will, in the end, reduce the public domain to less than 1% of all the material ever published.

THE PUBLIC DOMAIN USED TO BE 50% OF ALL MATERIAL!!!

Any time "The-Powers-That-Be" get that organized to keep something from the public you can be sure that something is something of GREAT VALUE.

In this case it is the most important thing offered by most civilized countries. . .the opportunity for the individuals to learn to read to pull themselves up by their bootstraps to a more equal footing with The-Powers-That-Be.

Equality. . .What A Concept!!!

The Billion Book Library

I would be remiss if I did not include a final goal for the 50th year of Project

Gutenberg, which is to conclude in 2021, that goal being to assemble eBook titles on the order of 10 million and translate the average title into 100 different languages, to make a library of one billion books.

It can be done.

It will be done.

The only question is when?

How long will it take for 10 million eBooks?

Based on 4 million in 2007, I'd say 2011 is a first possibility, with 2012 being more likely.

I am hoping by 2012 to have created some samples of translation project using the combination of humans and automated machine translation, just as we do at the present time with OCR combined with programs to find errors then combined with two human proofings, to create eBooks that are about 99.99% accurate.

I remind those who are skeptical just how bad OCR's were 20 years ago and how good they were by 1997.

Additional Notes About Events of Gutenberg's Time

According to the pundits of the time, there was not any contest between The Gutenberg Press and scribes and monks that made all the previous books.

Of course, the pundits of the time were as much the property of the publishing industry of the times as are the pundits of today. . .and what pundit worthy of employment is going to risk terminating the very employment we are talking about by stating that the olde boye networke is going to fall to some odd new invention that does it all in such a machine manner as to take all the humanity out of things.

The scribes of the time simply increased the artsy- illuminated-manuscript aspects of their work in the hopes that Herr Gutenberg's invention would not get the same kind of results, but they were wrong; now you know why The Gutenberg Bible has so many aspect examples of the artform of illuminated manuscripts.

Footnote

Of course, when I say "private," I mean kept secret from the masses in certain ways. . .ways extending, as it were, from censorship to high prices and huge

assortments of techniques in between.

Einstein: “The Most Important Decision You’ll Ever Make Is…”

Einstein said that the most important decision you ever make is whether you live in a friendly universe or a hostile universe– in a positive universe or a negative universe.

This relates very strongly to what is perhaps the greatest idea I came up with in all my college years, which was that you make more difference in the world taking something good and making a better thing out of it than by undoing something bad. . . .

When we describe our heroes and superheroes, we often described them only in terms of the bad things they have undone.

However, this is not ALWAYS the case, as TIME magazine managed, in an era of fairly unprecedented biased journalism, to elect a “Person of the Millennium” who had actually taken a good thing, A VERY GOOD THING. . .books. . .and MAKE THEM HUGELY BETTER.

Herr Gutenberg did not have to think he was undoing some evils, all he had to do was think of making more books, better books– faster books, etc. . .as more books were published in just that first fifty years of his invention’s use than in all of history for five thousand years.

However, other people noticed that certain evils associated via book censorship and other practices of the-powers-that-be might be undone by the application of Gutenberg’s invention.

As a result, The Roman catholic Church, which has stood for the previous 1500 years, was shaken by a non-violent earthquake and has still never recovered to this day.

In an interesting side note, those who had written the Church’s books in ye olde handwritten manuscripts managed to survive via the application of a restraint on The Gutenberg Press, known as “copyright law.” We should note, however, that it took them an awfully long time to get that law passed. . .over 250 years.

Today “The Stationers Guild,” followed by “The Stationers Co.,” and their direct descendants in a number of countries control a world of publishing in a far more complete manner than a Church Office of the Inquisition ever did. . .and they used the states and nations of the world to do it, even becoming a part of that greatest of world political organizations, The United Nations.

It is hard to believe that The United Nations, known chiefly as a helping hand all over the world, is the prime factor in world publishing monopolies due to it being the home of WIPO: “World Intellectual Property Organization,” who writes, lobbies, etc., nearly all the copyright laws throughout the entire world.

In case you haven’t noticed, copyright has changed from a point of having approximately 50% of all copyrighted materials expire into the public domain around 100 years ago, to the point where not even 1% of all copyrighted materials will have expired when we look back from 100 years into the future.

And this is true even if our copyright laws are not extended in the 21st Century as they were so greatly in the 20th Century.

[N.B. I talk mostly about U.S. Copyright Law, since that is my home, but we should be aware that WIPO and the U.S. persuaded a great number of other countries to also extend copyrights, even in the face of stated governmental policies NOT to extend.]

The result is that books that used to cost the same as a gallon of gasoline now cost 5 times as much as a gallon of gas, but it is not reported in the media since the media is part and parcel of the very publishing empire that controls copyright.

This is not something you need to take my word for, you can get examples of books from 50 years ago at nearly any garage sales, and you will see that the average paperback cost about 25 cents during the 1950’s, plus tax: for a total of just about exactly the same price as a gallon of gas, tax included: interesting.

One example is the James Bond novels that were just coming out, and are now averaging over $15, tax included to make comparison to gasoline prices consistent.

So what we see in our media is a constant reference to the cost of a gallon of gasoline, and I must admit I have never once had a chance to see any reports on the hyperinflation of such books as are described above.

Let’s see:

$.27 would buy either a gallon of gas or a paperback in 1957.

Today the price quoted in the national media is over $3. . . .

12 times as much as it was 50 years ago.

Today the price of a new James Bond paperback is about $15.

60 times as much as it was 50 years ago.

But THAT is NOT NEWSWORTHY!!!

[Just go down to Borders or Barnes & Noble to see for yourself]

There will always be some who won't believe this, even with the proof as easy to come by as this, but they are easily separated like the wheat from the chaff:

"For those of you with an open mind, A certain amount of proof is needed;
For those of you with a closed mind, No amount of proof is sufficient."
Tao Te Ching [paraphrased]

In this sense I am only too happy to cast the Project Gutenberg books into the world at large and to let those who would read a book be the judge of that book while letting those who wouldn't read the books make fools out of themselves by commenting on an assortment of other factors than the actual contents.

You might not believe how many of the critics of eBooks are the kind who do just that. . . .

"The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.

Which brings us back to the initial quotation by Einstein:

"The most important decision you will ever make is whether you live in a friendly universe or a hostile universe."

If you think you live in too friendly a universe, you should be expected to do very little to fight "the triumph of evil."

Why?

Because you wouldn't believe there is that much evil to fight.

However, even for those who know there is plenty of evil there, we should warn them that simply undoing evil can only bring the world back to where it was before the evil brought it down, the undoing of evil is not going to make the world a better place– better than is was without the evil.

The ONLY way to make the world a better place overall is to get going on making the things that are already good even better!!!

eBooks Are the Archimedean Lever that WILL Move the World!!!

Just as The Gutenberg Press did in its day, eBooks are changing the world faster than the-powers-that-be, the pundits, the news and most of the rest of those who think they are in control are likely to want to think.

It's NOT that they CAN'T think it. . .they just don't want to.

They have all the news at their command but they choose what to ignore and what to think. . .they can afford it. . .they think.

However, as result of eBooks, a trend they cannot now stop, the result will be just as it was with The Gutenberg Press:

1. More eBooks will be published in the next 50 years than all the paper books in all previous history.

2. The literacy rate will jump from "The Developed Countries," such as the G7 and G8 to "The Undeveloped Countries," in just a way as literacy jumped from the elite to the rest of the world, as a result of The Gutenberg Press.

3. A Scientific Revolution will follow, just as did originally from The Gutenberg Press, as the result of a billion illiterate people finding they can afford to read the great books on their cell phones. . .which. . .as of this year. . .will pass the 1/2 way mark to maximum penetration of the marketplace: 3 billion.

4. A "Neo-Industrial Revolution" will follow the Scientific as it did in the days following the first literacy revolution, and the first Scientific Revolution, and the masses would realize a fact that has only been rumored for the past half century–that the world COULD make all the food, clothing, reading material & all that jazz necessary for for anyone who wanted to change the way their lives work, to pull themselves up by the bootstraps.

The World Is Flat

I believe that eBooks are part of "The World Is Flat" ideal, as put forth by the likes of Thomas L. Friedman, but even moreso.

The great thing about eBooks is that they have no real value as physical

objects. . .oh, perhaps someday some of my early first floppies, first CDs, etc., will be worth something. . .but this is a different idea. . .you can't really SELL an eBook in quite the traditional sense, other than to libraries, etc., because a book of this nature is really a virtual item, has no reality in the sense of shipping tons of Harry Potter books right now to a number of Borders and Barnes & Noble stores and the idea of the books being pre-sold in quantities of 1/4 billion or the like.

The only real value of an eBook is in the person reading it.

If you don't read it, it has no value, it doesn't make any kind of good "coffee table book" or anything else you can show off– you actually have to read the book, understand it, and make the contents of the book come alive inside yourself for the book to have any value.

Of course, this is much more likely to change the world of that kind of people who have never been able to read much than it is to change the lives of people who have always had books.

Thus "The Flat Earth" analogy. . . .

eBooks will level the playing field today just as Gutenberg's a half a millennium ago. . .will move literacy from upper classes to lower classes just as it did half a millennium ago, and, the result will be something as unforeseen as was the recent demise of Dan Rather as "The Most Trusted Man In America" due to works of people who live in the virtual world and who are never seen, rarely heard of, until they topple a sleeping giant such as Dan Rather from job worth a billion dollars in Katie Couric's life.

There will never be another Dan Rather, or Walter Cronkite, for the coming generations, because the networks don't have a power base monopoly the way they used to, just as the monk and scribe lost their power to The Gutenberg Press, but there will always, always, always be another Edward R. Murrow, a person who learns the new medium before anyone else does, becomes household words via personal ability, rather than network policy and politics– someone who has something to say in a new way.

Murrow understood this in a way no one else did, and his way of showing the power of television by showing live shots of both a spot on the Atlantic Ocean and the Pacific Ocean simultaneously so the people could see both for the first time in history, was a masterpiece of not only understanding the new technology, but of relaying that understanding to the public.

As we have seen both in real life and via movies like Network– the media is intentionally "dumbing down" the public forums for their own purposes,

namely to make the public easier to lead to whatever conclusions the-powers-that-be might want to push.

The whole enterprise is dedicated to making the masses less the literate and well informed public required for democracy to put anything sensible together, and more the less informed kinds of herd animals that will follow their leaders into Iraq, Viet Nam and other places where the only plan is to make Americans pay a lot to "The War Toys Industry". . .a trillion dollars in total, but with no winning goal in sight, from the days of Korea to an assortment of similar non-goals since then.

Even Robert McNamara said there was never a plan for Viet Nam– and he was the person most responsible for the war. . . .

This Is A War About Control. . .Control of the Media

I'm not talking about the military operations, those have none, none at all, of the traditional military goals, or political.

I'm talking about the fact that the real enemy is the public.

The people the war machine fear the most is the public, because the public can turn the leaders of this country into just plain citizens, can ruin their places in the history books, just by a trip to the voting booth, to their own little media platforms– and can drive people such as President Nixon and Dan Rather out of power without any of the trappings of power.

These people are fighting the war of the media as surely as any soldier out there ever fought in any war, only the rules change with the times and with the game, and most of us don't know the war is on. . .don't know our minds are hostages of information, misinformation and disinformation. . . .

We don't even know, most of us, the war is going on. . . .

This Is A War About Control. . .Control of the Money

I'm not talking about the military operations, those have none, none at all, of the traditional military goals, or political.

I'm talking about the fact that the real enemy is the public.

The people the war machine fear the most is the public, because the public can turn the leaders of this country into just plain citizens, can ruin their places in the history books, just by a trip to the voting booth, to their own little media platforms– and can drive people such as President Nixon and Dan

Rather out of power without any of the trappings of power.

These people are fighting the war of the money as surely as any soldier out there ever fought in any war, only the rules change with the times and with the game, and most of us don't know the war is on. . .don't know our money is a hostage of inflationary spirals controlled by those to whom money is merely a pawn in a game that has billions and trillions and quadrillions of pieces on a board that extends well into virtual hyperspatial twists.

Rule #1

Money is fictional.

It's hard for most people to believe, but money has no reality, it is no more real than money that comes with MONOPOLY games or all the others. . .the only differences are what persons should be expected to give you for that money.

If you find this hard to understand or grok, try the definition or Robert Anson Heinlein in "Time Enough for Love."

By the way, get some original MONOPOLY money and you might find it is worth more than it says, fictional or not.

Rule #2

Make sure nobody who isn't playing the game your way can create internationally used money, or even private money, if you can.

If you haven't heard about the Chinese manipulating their money then you just haven't been listening. . .but, on the other hand there is a report every six months or so that has to say in the unbelievable, literally unbelievable in this case, language the United States Government Offices use, stating that China is NOT manipulating their money.

Why?

Because if the told the truth, then other laws would kick in to forbid trading with such an untrustworthy nation.

Get it?

China is a trading partner we can no longer ignore.

China is a trading partner we can no longer avoid trade with.

China is already changing the world economy, and has been for a few years now, and most of us have no idea what is happening.

Where are those cheap Chinese button batteries from last year?

Where are all the rest of those cheap Chinese goods?

They are the same place all those cheap Japanese goods went the way of after the Japanese began to make goods that will compete in any world market with the goods of "The First World."

The Chinese have already passed that point, and did it in years so few in number that many of us will never remember it. . .and the general history books may never even record it.

History Is A Very Peculiar Business!

My favorite little comment about History concerns the David and Goliath battle of a couple thousand years ago.

In this commentary, Goliath has been killed by a stone from the sling of David, just as has always, but in this case that stone struck Goliath in the family jewels.

The various kings, nobles, priests, scribes, etc., surround the body of Goliath immediately and begin to confer. . . .

After some time the meeting ends and we once again see the body of Goliath, only things have been rearranged to make it appear, for the record, that Goliath has been struck in the head.

The chief herald announces to both armies and the crowd. . .

"LET IT BE RECORDED THAT HE WAS STRUCK IN THE HEAD!"

and so it was written down for billions of the coming years.

We like to think of history, our own history in particular, for the ages to come, as somewhat of a more honest telling of those events that "alter and illuminate our time," but the truth will always be, just as it always has been, that the victors write a history that suits them and their oft rewritten agenda, just as in the commentary about David and Goliath.

Just as psychologists tell us that children aren't born knowing how to lie, so, too, it appears that civilization wasn't born a lying civilization, but had to learn it little by little.

Of course, this is a circular argument, and could be entirely a falsehood, perhaps just looking better because so few had those tools necessary to leave records back in the days of antiquity, before The Gutenberg Press leveled the playing field in manners of speaking akin to Thomas L. Friedman's Flat Earth scenario.

However it was with antiquity, we know that Modern History will be written with a strong bias from the ruling class, but with a proviso that the middle class, and now even the lower class, is likely to leave a separate but unequal commentary, just as they may have done in the case of Goliath.

The vast majority of Americans don't believe the assassinations of Jack and Bobby Kennedy were anything like history records.

The vast majority of Americans don't believe the Viet Nam War's beginnings, middle, or end, were anything like the records that were kept at the time.

The vast majority of Americans don't believe Gulf War II had an fair and balanced reasoning.

Even the start of America's involvement in World War II has big questions concerning whether Roosevelt knew about Pearl Harbor, not to mention that World War I's beginnings were not quite the stuff of hard core decision making.

As the CIA is releasing more and more evidence of information's history being one of misinformation and disinformation, perhaps the history books will eventually start to comment on all this, and perhaps the FBI, NSA, and other agencies will have to join, however belatedly, in this kind of revelation, though it is the kind of thing that nearly always happens only after the careers of the major players are over.

Today we find out that some of the groups the FBI was watching, particularly back in the days surrounding President Nixon, were so heavily infiltrated that it is possible they would have been unable to maintain their existence without the dues paid by the numbers of FBI agents who could seemingly afford them while the actual people under surveillance didn't have the money to go on without the assistance of the various agencies.

Some of these reports go so far as to make it appear that agent participation may have been so strong as to be "entrapment," of a nature to maintain an organization just for the purposes of a conspiracy to attract people so they could be arrested.

The history books COULD be full of such things, from a harmless example,

such as that it was illegal to mention Sherlock Holmes was a fictional character in certain places back in WWI, simply because the ignorance of the public about this gave them morale boosts by “knowing” Mr. Holmes was after the German spies.

In such cases it is obvious “the end justifies the means,” with the government being able to lie about something for the morale of both the general public and the military.

Immoral morale builders. . .as some may refer to it.

The numbers of these stories are legion, but the history books, such as they are, rarely decide to include them, leaving such a task to the more shadowy publications of individuals, not those corporations entrusted with the memory of our civilizations.

In World War II it was common for people to believe Roosevelt’s legs worked well enough for him to walk, as a morale builder.

However, by the time of those famous Yalta pictures with Stalin and Churchill, it was necessary for all to be seated, as even a second for a picture was too much for President Roosevelt.

The same kind of reporting apparently covered up indiscretion’s other half, when it came to President Roosevelt’s love life.

These were apparently “open secrets” in Washington, New York or other locations.

Not so in modern times, when the Republicans insisted on trying President Clinton for saying he never made love with Lewinsky– a question millions of Americans would have answered the same– without thinking they were lying. . .and they insisted on trial by the press when they knew before they even started that their ranks could not support an actual vote of impeachment.

In addition, Congressmen Henry Hyde, turned out to have so much more to hyde than President Clinton, but never batted an eye in the moments after it was revealed he had done ever so much more over the course of the past 26 years. . .but this will not read in an of our history books that mention the impeachment.

Nor will J. Edgar Hoover’s transvestite photographs ever be the stuff of the record books, though their existence has been made obvious enough. . .nor will the fact that their existence had a certain effect on how Mr. Hoover ran the FBI in a manner that a responsible history would want to reveal.

The fact is that it appears that our previous history was a big effort to protect the country, whatever the country, while late efforts seem to have been more on the order of political hacks.

But again, that could be a circular argument, mentioned above.

In Conclusion, Back To Einstein's "Most Important Decision"

The question as to whether we live in "a friendly or a hostile" universe. . ."a positive or a negative" universe, has to be the kind of question that demands some serious research.

True, your life may be much more enjoyable if you feel you live in "a friendly positive universe."

True, your life may be much less enjoyable if you feel you live in "a hostile negative universe."

Those express the most egotistic and egocentric points of view.

However, equally egotistical or egocentric are the other points of view of those such as the late Tony Soprano, who felt people were there just to be fleeced, and that the only way to work in the world was to find a nice middle ground between those powers above and those below, where you could be fleeced by those with more power than you, and you could fleece the rest.

There are many people in the world who feel just this way.

Millions.

Perhaps billions.

"Screw or be screwed."

"Dog eat dog."

"Do unto others before they do unto you."

But. . .you must ask. . .do these persons live in that universe of "friendly positive" existence???

so, if not, then why do they choose to live in that universe?

Because it is the only universe they know!!!

THAT is what Einstein was referring to. . . .

An Alternate Parallel Universe

Think of a different kind of universe for just a moment.

Still hostile, still negative, but one in which YOU can make an alternative to the world just described above.

Not simply that you might have the ability to undo some bad but also that you might be able to do some actual good.

Remember, even if you undo ALL the bad stuff, all you have done is to bring things back to where they were without the bad, not made the basic life of your world any better.

The real changes in the world are not undoing evil, even though these are important, they are more like changing the oil in car engines before the oil gets so bad as to kill the engine.

These events are called “maintenance.”

Some people define the necessity of maintenance as an evil, but they forget that every breath you take is maintenance of oxygen in the bloodstream, everything you eat and drink is maintenance of your body’s metabolism, every time you get ready to sleep by washing up, brushing your teeth, washing your clothes, and this also applies to keeping up homes, cars, etc., etc., etc.

Why do children hate baths and toothbrushes?

Because they are too busy GROWING to think of MAINTENANCE.

They are growing SOOO fast that they don’t even GET these whole concepts of maintenance because their world is changing so fast that nothing seems the same to them from day to day, other than the maintenance. . .which seems so boring when going soo fast.

The older you get, the more your life stabilizes, the more your time becomes involved in keeping things maintained, because you HAVE so many things TO maintain and because you are NOT growing as fast as when you were a child. Think about it for a minute.

A kid is mostly motion. . .going. . .growing. . .learning and a new experience changing every single day of life. . . .

An adult is mostly repetitive motion, the rat race treadmill of the regularity of clockwork, getting ready for work, going from home to work, doing the

morning work, having lunch at places by where you work, doing the afternoon's work, getting ready to go home, and back onto the commuter treadmill. . .and that's whole days of whole years of whole decades, not the kid's life.

Even with the shorter workday of modern times, the holidays and all that, the average worker today spends more time treadmilled to the same pattern than they did a short time ago. . .European workers do seem to have a real idea of vacation that somehow is not picked up by the rest of the world.

However, the point here is that YOU can make alternatives to an already operating universe of this kind, simply by stepping out of the boundaries and providing alternatives for others.

Yesterday I received a call from my neighbor whose lawnmower is something I borrow once in a while, it had stopped cold and the thing wouldn't start again. It only took me perhaps 30 minutes total out of my schedule, the schedule of garage sales, to make a few trips back and forth to analyze the problem, get tools to change the spark plug, and get the thing running again.

This is someone I like very much, someone whose newspapers were a part of my route when I was a kid, a person whom I think came from Italy originally, long ago, from "the old country," and it is just so nice to be able to do something for such people, who are always doing for others. . . .

When I was done, she wanted to pay me, and I wasn't insulted by this, but I explained to her that sometimes the greatest gift a person can give is to let someone give something to them.

MY universe is a better place today for helping her yesterday!

And so, I hope, is hers. . .and perhaps her neighbors'.

If you know what I mean. . . .

Hopefully you have noticed that sometimes these things go waves at a time, and everyone ends up having a wonderful day, all the result of a few "random acts of kindness."

THAT is just ONE way YOU can change YOUR universe.

Other Alternate Parallel Universes

The world at large is hard to change this way as even our Nobel Peace Prize winners have found out.

I was VERY impressed that the Nobel committee awarded the prize last year for giving out micro-loans, it means that they have a new perspective, a new point of view, that allows the work done at the bottom of the pyramid to be rewarded in this manner.

“The continuing standard of living of humankind is how we measure the value of all things.” mh

The way to change the world at large is to change things from a wholistic point of view, a perspective that includes the world, at large, rather than one particular piece of the world.

This can be approached from either the top or the bottom of the pyramids of power, but the truth becomes obvious that if worlds of people are going to be changed, you have to get those worlds of people involved, and not just in military conflicts.

From the Top Down

“The Trickle-Down Theory of Economics” as purveyed by President Ronald Reagan [the Hollywood actor, also President of SAG] [The Screen Actors Guild], worked on the opposite point of view that making a change for those at the very top was certainly going a long ways farther down the pyramid to make changes for those at the bottom. . .yet you can easily see that the results have the opposite effect, that the benefits given to the wealthy elitist group at the top have merely solidified their top position as a wider and wider gap has been created between themselves and the lower ranks of the pyramid.

“The Rich Get Richer While The Poor Get Poorer.”

Other approaches from the top down get some attention, namely a predilection for elitist education.

Several examples jump out over the past half century or so, big ones concerning SEPARATE BUT EQUAL segregationist practitioners being overthrown by the U.S. Supreme court in the mid-1950’s at a time when education, particularly at the higher level, wasn’t such a common thing.

However, when you look at the actual response in education with reference to these events, you will see that this marked a more destructive than constructive force in universal education.

The response of the more wealthy whites was “white flight,” the creation of new suburban communities that blacks simply weren’t able to afford, so the

school district lines remained black for this side and white for that side.

In addition came the greater and greater numbers of white kid's enrollment in private schools, even to the point where majority children of public school teachers sent kids to private school.

Another point that didn't really make the headlines. . . .

The education of Americans has fallen pretty drastically in the intervening years, certainly enough to deny credibility to that Reaganomics "Trickle-Down Theory" that helping those at the top will help everyone in general.

While the U.S. economy may be able to be made to appear strong, given various and sundry reporting methods, nothing happens for education to make it look any better. . .other than restructure of the college entrance exam scoring to boost scores without an actual boost in performance.

BTW, the change from GNP [Gross National Product] to GDP [Gross Domestic Product] was designed to do exactly the same thing, to deny the existence of the deficits to make production look like it was better than if the deficits were included.

From the Bottom Up

However, not all people, and certainly not all capitalists, for at least the previous ages, have gone by "Trickle-Down Theories of Economics" and those people have changed the world at large.

Obviously the very earliest inventions could be shared by whole populations who saw them, simply because they were so obvious.

The Lever.

Fire.

Tanning.

Agriculture.

Weaving.

The Spear.

The Bow and Arrow.

Animal Domestication.

But then things changed. . . .

While these things took some practice and effort to master, the underlying principal of each thought process was obvious when a person saw it in action. It might take long time, a big effort over that time, but these could be duplicated by all.

However, when things got to a more complicated stage of thought they could be kept secret for longer and longer periods of time which increased the separation created by the inventions.

One such example was Damascus Steel.

Damascus Steel was so much better than any other metal of ages, that it kept Damascus alive as a center of power for more ages.

However, the recipe for making it was kept SOOO secret that the secret was lost when the small number of people who know it all were wiped out at the same time. . .before any of them could do anything to pass on the secret.

Thus came one of the great stories of lost technology of great, long past empires that surpassed anything of modern times.

In fact, it has only been due to the recent computer revolution that the secret of Damascus Steel has been broken and now there are a few new kinds of steel on the market particularly good to make swords with. . .just ask Jackie Chan, who bought one of an extremely limited first edition.

Today it possible, even desireable, from the top level powers– to keep everything possible big secrets, even worthless things.

Remember when “the intelligence community” was revealed as some kind of place where the standard policy was:

“Never tell the truth when a lie will do.”

This is no longer just the “black ops” philosophy of spooks and politicians, it is now the prevailing philosophy of business in the world at large, and, as a result, progress is slowing down, only saved by The Computer Revolution started by two wacky kids in a garage in Cupertino, California, now called Silicon Valley and known around the world.

Who knows where we would be without those two kids, two Steve’s named Woz and Jobs. . . .

The truth is that “the-powers-that-be” didn’t want computers in the home,

couldn't even conceive of them when the heads of IBM, Hewlett-Packard, etc., said there was no need for computers out there numbering more than a handful, and Bill Gates said, "640K is enough for anybody."

Today you can buy 64G on a flash RAMdrive/USBdrive, etc.

/

Note of current events:

Quest boss makes 1600 times as much as the average Quest worker per year, and now that this has become public

Apparently he will be leaving while the quitting is gook, and a report of his gold-encrusted platinum parachute is missing from the public record.

AT&T, Quest, etc., were sued for collusion, but Supreme Court's recent decision was not even to allow for the discovery process that would have been the next step before bringing to court, so it's pretty much all over.

/

Keeping secrets and money closer and closer to the vest is what is going on today, and has been the trend ever since 1955.

Please note that this is about the same period of hyperinflated paperback book prices, and the time that royalty structure data were last made public at 1 cent per copy for the first printing and 1.5 cents per copy thereafter, usually split 50/50, between the author and the hardback publisher.

Thus Ian Fleming probably got half a cent for the original Bond paperback printings and 3/4 of a cent per book thereafter.

A million seller paperback; less than $7,500 to the authors out of $250,000 dollars in sales.

[1 million pennies is $10,000, half is $5,000, 3/4 is $7,500.]

The funny part is, of course, that just as much went to the old hardback publisher as to the author, much like "selling" player "X" from one ball team to another.

[These figures from Freeman Lewis, R.R. Bowker, World Almanac– 1953 edition, pp 315-316]

This is why there was such controversy marking the start of the paperback

industry, even though about 1/4 BILLION in paperbacks were already being sold per year around this time.

Paperback profits and royalty structures were a real issue when the authors complained that they mostly got half a cent per.

Put this together with the James Bond statistics previously put in the above sections and you begin to get the picture.

[More statistics of this era available on request.]

However, I /MUST/ bring this little essay to a close, because I am leaving to give presentations for Prof. Marvin Minsky at MIT and another in Hartford, CT, as soon as I can get packed and do a little eating, cleaning up, and perhaps a nap before driving, less than a thousand miles, but it still takes all day long.

So. . .back to “Einstein’s Most Important Decision

This time via George Bernard Shaw:

“The reasonable man adapts himself to the world; the unreasonable one persists in trying to adapt the world to himself. Therefore all progress depends on the unreasonable man.”

Admiral Grace Hopper, of “nanosecond” fame said:

“The most damaging phrase in the language is: It’s always been done that way.” Grace Hopper

The major point is:

“Without deviation, progress is not possible.”

The real subject here is making the biggest life decision.

On that subject, I defer to President Thomas Jefferson:

“A people cannot hope to be both ignorant and free.”

Commenting on the current levels of contempt for education, and freedom of the media, not to mention the public domain, I quote Rabindranath Tagore:

“Contempt kills the light which ignorance merely leaves unignited.”

The light we should be speaking of should be placed as high and

unobstructed as we possible can.

I refer you also to my previous articles on:

“The Chandelier Diatribe”

and I close, in response to “The New Dark Ages” with:

Matthew 5:15

Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

Mark 4:21 And he said unto them, Is a candle brought to be put under a bushel, or under a bed? and not to be set on a candlestick?

Luke 8:16 No man, when he hath lighted a candle, covereth it with a vessel, or putteth it under a bed; but setteth it on a candlestick, that they which enter in may see the light.

Luke 11:33 No man, when he hath lighted a candle, putteth it in a secret place, neither under a bushel, but on a candlestick, that they which come in may see the light.

Che la Sorgente sia con voi…

Cio’ che io intendo è che l’ideale del progetto Gutenberg è portare la Sorgente di tutte le informazioni e quindi la conoscenza alle masse, proprio come fece la pressa di Gutenberg nella meta’ del Secondo Millennio, solo in modo moderno.

Mentre la nostra civiltà si avvia nel Terzo Millennio, l’uomo della strada dovrebbe essere in grado di potere, tramite computer connessi alla rete, accedere a milioni di libri, con lo scopo di acquisire conoscenza, già quando solo 1% del Millennio è trascorso. Quando il 2% di questo tempo sarà passato 10 milioni di questi libri dovrebbero essere accessibili a tutti, tradotti in 100 lingue o più.

Tali predizioni erano il mio obiettivo sin dal concepimento dell’Archivio Letterale del Progetto Gutenberg, ma soltanto oggi c’è qualche probabilità che la gente prenda in seria considerazione queste predizioni…

Però con il notevole aumento delle capacità di memoria e la sensibile riduzione dei costi, gli obiettivi del Progetto Gutenberg, diventano sempre più realistici e i denigratori hanno poco spazio di manovra,…

Oggi, non c'è ragione perchè una persona media non possa avere una intera biblioteca di libri che risiedono nella memoria del suo personal computer,biblioteca propria, solo più grande di una biblioeca pubblica di medie dimensioni.Tale biblioteca capace di contenere 30.000 libri può benissimo conservare anche altre cose: opere d'arte di migliaia di artisti o scultori, musica di migliaia di compositori e un' ampia varietà di altre cose.

Tutti conosciamo gli iPods, ma la maggioranza di noi non sa che un iPod è in grado di contenere più musica di quanta siamo in grado di ascoltare. È normale per alcuni inserire 10.000 brani nei loro iPods… ascoltando un brano ogni 60 minuti, 24 ore al giorno,7 giorni alla settimana,365 giorni all'anno non riusciremmo ad ascoltarli tutti. 10000/365 = 27.4.

Molti non sanno che si possono leggere libri con gli iPods, sin dai primi giorni che gli iPods apparvero sul mercato, che si può inserire una biblioteca elettronica di ebooks allo stesso modo di una libreria musicale. le due si possono mischiare, e con l'avvento dei video iPod avere anche una libreria artistica.

Ma io non voglio che la gente semplicemente abbia questo materiale, voglio che esso costituisca la sorgente per il nuovo materiale del futuro.

Io voglio che chiunque veramente voglia, sia in grado di avere a disposizione facilmente qualsiasi opera classica, per modificarla, per fare il vero lavoro… tra le orecchie, e il cuore. Non dimentichiamoci del cuore.

Il nostro sistema scolastico tende a insegnare solo delle nozioni, evitando di generare quegli eventi che potrebbero indurre delle idee. dei pensieri nella mente degli allievi. Generare pensieri rischia di diventare politicamente scorretto,e noi insegneremo alle prossime generazioni di studenti a non usare mai termini che possano indurre idee. Quale bene può derivare nell'indurre idee?

Quello che mi piacerebbe fare è liberare la gente dalla scuola nozionistica, liberarli dalle tabelline delle moltiplicazioni,che trasformano la mente in magazzini di totali e sub totali,anzichè in menti in grado di ragionare e risolvere i problemi,non semplicemente recitare a memoria la soluzione.

Missing

Io ricordo professori e insegnanti della stessa risma che a domande tipo:" Quando Amleto parla di fionde e frecce si riferisce a quelle usate da Davide e Golia?" Essi anzichè semplicemente dire si o no, aprivano i grandi libri delle opere diShakespeare, sfogliandoli casualmente sino alle pagine del soliloquio di Amleto, e dopo aver letto alcune righe,consigliare agli studenti possibili

ricerche.

La verità è che la maggioranza degli insegnanti non avendo mai considerato il problema non sono in grado di dare una risposta decente, e quindi si nascondono dietro la loro conoscenza nozionistica di gente che non ha mai approfondito o fatto approfondire un problema,

Io vorrei che gli studenti potessero essere più precisi dei professori in quanto a riferimenti nozionistici, semplicemente estraendo i loro PDA, PPC,iPods o altro, mantenendo il discorso su un serio piano didattico senza deragliamenti e divagazioni.

Quando io dico :" che la Sorgente sia con Voi," intendo poter dare il materiale sorgente primario a tutti, pertanto liberando costoro, io spero, dalle grucce di un sistema educazionale superato che persegue il semplice triviale conseguimento del titolo di studio. Permettendo agli allievi di porre domande e impedendo ai professori di scantonare.

Lo stesso vale per i professori tirannici,stile professor Kingsfield del film:"The paper chase" tratto dall'omonima novella,dove gli studenti a caccia di un pezzo di carta,hanno la vita già difficile resa impossibile dal professore.

A proposito di films, vorrei raccomandarvi un film di Ealing Alec Guines," L'uomo con il vestito bianco" che é in assoluto il mio film preferito per la parte sinistra del cervello. Quindi un classico per la parte destra "Le scarpe rosse" che è dello stesso periodo.

"Le scarpe rosse" é, era disponibile sotto forma di tascabile,scritto da i due che fecero il film.

Suppongo che dovrei anche aggiungere la versione del 1954 di "20000 leghe sotto i mari"

Sempre parlando di film, "Dandelion wine" di Ray Bradbury è il favorito della parte destra del cervello con "Atlas Shrugged" per la sinistra. Quest'ultimo libro è di 1000 pagine che tanto per iniziare possono essere troppe. Forse è meglio iniziare con "Anthem" che si può scaricare dal sito "Progetto Gutenberg"

Se sei veramente interessato a questa lettura, forse dovresti leggere prima."The Fountainhead" ottenendo di più dalla lettura. Avvisandoti però che le prime 120 pagine sono molto lente.

Vorrei aggingere che lo scopo del "Progetto Gutenberg" non è quello di mettere a disposizione prodotti finiti a milioni di persone ma piuttosto offrire

delle sorgenti di materiale col quale costruire nuovi prodotti valorizzare se stessi, senza dover dipendere da alcuno: librerie, scuole,istituzioni, avendo un accesso diretto alle informazioni.

Forse non dovrei scrivere questa parte!!?

Io non voglio eliminare le biblioteche e,o le scuole, io le amo più di quanto si possa credere, ma delle scuole e delle biblioteche amo il materiale genuino più delle scuole stesse.

Valuto più importanti le parole dei libri che i libri intesi come oggetto. Non riesco a capire la gente che dice di amare l'aspetto dei libri o la senzazione prodotta dalla carta.In quache modo essi preferiscono la forma piuttosto che il contenuto. Per me il contenuto è tutto, io letteralmente non so come sono le pagine del libro che sto leggendo, amenochè io non stia studiandolo per una lezione. In tal caso io ricordo le parole e le pagine dove sono scritte, cosicchè le posso ritovare… ma io dietro le parole ho letteralmente la visione della storia narrata. È per questa ragione che io non posso guidare ascoltando un audiolibro,troppo pericoloso.

Ciò che più valuto è la mente e il cuore degli autori che hanno trascorso la maggior parte della loro vita per raccontarmi quello che c'è dentro di loro, le loro percezioni, i pensieri e i loro sentimenti.

I libri sono i più grandi mezzi di comunicazione, con i quali possiamo ricevere i pensieri di persone distanti centinaia o migliaia di anni e kilometri. Proprio come il colonnello Freeleigh nel libro "Dandelion Wine"

Se l'unico effetto della mia carriera è che l'analfabetismo si è ridotto del 10%, che la gente legge il 10% in più, che il 10% è più colta, con tutto ciò che ne consegue, io posso dire di aver avuto successo. Ma io spero in molto di più.

Io spero che gli eBooks producano lo stesso cambio della pressa di Gutenberg, un nuovo rinascimento, una nuova rivoluzione industriale, un qualcosa che su vasta scala abbia effetti sulla parte destra e sinistra del mondo

Io spero' che tu personalmente, grazie a gli eBooks, possa trovare almeno una porta aperta in più,che ti conduca in un posto diversamente irragiungibile che puoi chiamare casa.

Saluti a tutti.

Project Gutenberg Newsletters

The Project Gutenberg eBook of Project Gutenberg Newsletters 1999

This ebook is for the use of anyone anywhere in the United States and most other parts of the world at no cost and with almost no restrictions whatsoever. You may copy it, give it away or re-use it under the terms of the Project Gutenberg License included with this ebook or online at www.gutenberg.org. If you are not located in the United States, you will have to check the laws of the country where you are located before using this eBook.

Title: Project Gutenberg Newsletters 1999

Author: Michael Hart

Project Gutenberg Newsletters 1999

Release date: April 22, 2015 [eBook #48791] Most recently updated: October 24, 2024

Language: English

Credits: Produced by David Widger

*** START OF THE PROJECT GUTENBERG EBOOK PROJECT GUTENBERG NEWSLETTERS 1999 ***

PROJECT GUTENBERG NEWSLETERS 1999

By Michael Hart

Contents:

DECEMBER, 1998

JANUARY 1999

FEBRUARY 1999

MARCH 1999

APRIL 1999

MAY 1999

JUNE 1999

JULY 1999

AUGUST 1999

SEPTEMBER 1999

OCTOBER 1999

NOVEMBER 1999

DECEMBER 1999

NOTE: An exact copy, with the orignal formatting of the original newsletters, may be found in the “old” directory available by clicking on “More Files” in the the PG Catalog listing.

DECEMBER 10, 1998

****This is the Project Gutenberg Newsletter for December 10, 1998**** [Usually sent the first Wednesday of each month, delayed if by relay.] Main URL is promo.net Webmaster is Pietro di Miceli, of Rome, Italy

If you ever take the time to read this Newsletter beginning to the end . . .this is probably the best time. . .there is a LOT of information, for both those who just want to get our books, and, also for those who want to help create those books.

This Newsletter is actually being posted November’s first Wednesday in response to the new United States copyright laws passed just last week and is thus doing double duty; as the December 10th Newsletter is more traditionally a venue for releasing some Etexts of the best classics– which I most often dedicate to my father, who passed away December 10, 9 years ago, just after getting Project Gutenberg’s initial supporter, with one of his brilliant ideas that kept amazing me all of my life!!!

So. . .here is the biggest Project Gutenberg Newsletter of all time… containing more Etexts than ever before, and, getting us more ahead of schedule than ever before…with more people to contact about becoming a Project Gutenberg volunteer than ever before, and even more. . . .

This has been a VERY hectic week, as I came back out of vacation mode, just a week ago today, having posted only about 5 Etexts in 12 days of vacation since our previous Newsletter, and in that one week we posted all 31 Etexts left to complete the next month, as well as the 49 files of our new, and more complete, AND PUBLIC DOMAIN, Shakespeare edition! [During the writing of this Newsletter we have posted three more Etext files for May, 1999, appended at the end of the lists. We also should be posting the newly revised copyrighted Shakespeare files any minute. Sue and Greg may be sending you an independent Newsletter about those.

So. . .please forgive me if I have overdone or underdone anything here . . .I am already 7 hours late in getting this posted as we speak.

Michael S. Hart Project Gutenberg Executive Director

1Contest:

1. Late new items.
2. Requests from our volunteers.
3. While “the cat in the Cat in the Hat hat” is away, will mice play?
4. A first glance at the new copyright laws.
5. The 36 Project Gutenberg Etexts for April, 1999.
6. The 49 NEW Project Gutenberg Complete Works of Shakespeare, this one is in the Public Domain, at least in the U.S.
7. The NEWLY REVISED editions of our 100th Etext, the copyrighted version of Shakespeare’s works. . .1,000s of errors corrected!
8. Who is this “cat in the Cat in the Hat hat,” anyway? Or what?
9. Late news items.

I [Michael Hart] will be hard to reach for the coming month, as I will be meeting with a number of people, doing conferences, house hunting in Tacoma, and all that stuff, and, hopefully taking rest and refuge from everything to prepare to continue the fight for a reversal of the new copyright laws in court.

So, in addition to emailing me at hart@pobox.com, you should also cc:

Sue Asscher asschers@aia.net.au, or Greg Newby gbnewby@ils.unc.edu if you can’t get to Sue

Sue and Greg will be posting the books while I am gone, and maybe even sending out one of these Newsletters!

Please also be encouraged to contact:

Dianne Bean beandp@primenet.com, United States David Price ccx074@ccj.coventry.ac.uk England John Bickers jbickers@ihug.co.nz New Zealand

[But don’t feel you can only contact the one who is closest to you. . . .]

[We don't want Sue and Greg to be too inundated with everything.] They are not nearly as used to this as are Dianne, David and John, and I hope you will be as considerate of them all as possible.

Thanks!

Michael

For those who access our sites to get or send Etexts:

archive.org has been through a MAJOR crash as is not, at least at this moment, fully recovered, so you may want to try our other sites. Email Sue and Newby to find out where to send files if you have trouble. I note that sunsite.unc.edu is not accepting files for the moment because the disk is full. . .more on this in the Volunteers' Newsletter in a day or so. Newby just this minute let me know that archive.org is up, at least for "outgoing" to send us files, but now it requires a "cd work" command after FTPing in. Newby will try to get the /etext directories running ASAP, so you can get the normal files from archive.org

[Right. . ."ootgoing" is now "outgoing" [cd work]!!!

1.

As usual, before we even get started, here are requests to find certain books our volunteers would LOVE to work on:

The works of Francesca Franco [of "Dangerous Beauty" fame] cyri@juno.com Tania

William Blake, The Four Zoas We have someone who is willing to pay for part of the cost of getting a copy of this. . .and will proofread. You can contact me directly about this one. . . . If the price is decent, just go ahead and get it if the copyright is 1922, or earlier. . .but please don't ship it to me yet. . . .

Burton's Arabian Nights. . .for: Ron Burkey rburkey@heads-up.com Unabridged, dated before 1923 in copyright or publication info.

and

Would anyone be interested in collecting up pieces of the Human Genome to post on Project Gutenberg? It is often requested.

Here is a list of our Directors of Production, please feel free to contact them during the next month as I will be hard to get.

???

1. While “the cat in the Cat in the Hat hat” is away, will mice play?

I will be hard to reach for the next month, hobnobbing with my fellow wizards as I tend to do every year at this time. I hope to come back with some major support for Project Gutenberg, as I am aging quickly, and surprised myself quite a bit with our huge rush of production for the past three months. It appears we have posted over 267 new files, with some 216 of them as new editions, all in the past 92 days or so. In fact, the 36 April Etexts, and all the new and revised Shakespeare files were posted in the last two weeks. . .someday I hope we can get that much work done EVERY two weeks!

1. A first glance at the new copyright laws.

I was only a week ago that the new copyright laws were signed, and it is my honor to tell you that our volunteers and supporters have great will power when it comes to a call to arms. The HUGE book production over the past two weeks was actually nearly all posted in just 1 week since this new law took effect. [I had already gone into what I call “vacation mode” after sending out the mid-month Newsletter, and, only 4 or 5 new books had been posted between the Newsletter and the law– when I announce an effort to avenge the passing of the law by posting as many books as possible for the next Newsletter, which would now be set for only one week away, instead of six weeks away.

No way I can say NEARLY enough about our volunteers and directors, as they really and truly CAME THROUGH IN A TIME OF CRISIS to let a world know that we were not going to knuckle under to the pressure!

A tip of the hat to all of them!!

Now, on the legal matters.

At first glance, the major effect on the Public Domain is destruction . . .plain and simple. . .for the next 20 years. . .and more, if they pass another such law, which, I am sure they will try their damnedest to do. . .THERE WILL BE NO MORE PUBLIC DOMAIN BOOKS IN THE U.S. other than the ones that had already entered the Public Domain on 1/1/1998.

Even if such a law is NOT passed again and again, the Public Domain a person might have gotten used to living in this century will only “be a distant memory before Orwell’s Age of 1984” in that a Public Domain that used to include approximately HALF or 50% of all materials of an eternity of

publishing up to 100 years ago, should now include nearly 0% of the all the materials that will have been published in history, up to 100 years from now.

Let me put this succinctly:

100 years ago the U.S. Public Domain included about 50% of everything

100 years from now the U.S. Public Domain will include about 0%. .

Here's the simple math:

If copyrighted information doubles every 14 years, and the copyright usually expires in 14 years, then information is flowing into public domain access at the same rate it is flowing into copyright. . .so a quick look tells us that during the time it took to create a world's new supply of information, the old supply of information came out of copyright and into the Public Domain. . . .

100 years ago [and up to 1909] the average copyright lasted about 15 years, with most books having 14 years of copyright monopoly and the copyrights were not renewed, because the books weren't selling after about 5 years, on the average, for the books that were good enough a library would have purchased them. This is still true today. . .you steal or lose a book over 5 years from a library and the odds are it cannot be replaced because it has gone out of print.

Since information was doubling just about every 14 years back then– the result was that half of all information was in the Public Domain . . .which isn't such a terrible way to have it be. . .the powerful, the rich, etc., can still have twice as much as those who mostly use free information.

In my interview last week with the New York Times, the interviewer's suggestion was that we consider current information to be doubling a bit faster. . .every 7 years.

If the average copyright were still just over 14 years today, we see that 75% or 3/4 of all information would still be copyrighted.

The faster information flows through our society, the more is hidden from the Public Domain by copyrights of the same length.

Under the new copyright law, the average copyright will be nearly an entire century in length, with no renewals required, and copyrighted notices are no longer required. . .it will be nearly impossible from the average person's point of view, to tell whether anything is in a copyrighted or public domain status, and, it will take some research to find out. . .this alone is enough to

stop most public domain use.

However, even AFTER doing all the copyright research, the struggling “New Age Public Domain Information Providers” will find that none of the materials they research will be in the Public Domain. . .none in the sense that the number will be closer to 0% than to 1%. . .closer by a HUGE margin to 0% than to 1%.

If the New York Times’ estimates of 7 years for information doubling may be considered at all correct, then this is what will happen in a United States under the new copyright law, even if we considered 100 percent of current information to the entered into the Public Domain as an incentive to let this law stand:

0 years. . .100% of today’s information is in the Public Domain 7 years. . . 50% of today’s information is in the Public Domain 14 years. . . 25% of today’s information is in the Public Domain 21 years. . . 12.5% of today’s information is in the Public Domain 28 years. . . 6.25% of today’s information is in the Public Domain 35 years. . . 3.125% of today’s information is in the Public Domain 42 years. . . 1.5625% of today’s information is in the Public Domain 49 years. . . 0.78125% of today’s information is in the Public Domain 56 years. . . 0.390625% of today’s information is in the Public Domain 63 years. . . 0.1953125% of today’s information is in the Public Domain 70 years. . . 0.09765625% of today’s information is in the Public Domain 77 years. . . 0.048828125% of today’s information is in the Public Domain 84 years. . . 0.0244140625% of today’s information is in the Public Domain 91 years. . . 0.01220703125% of today’s information is in the Public Domain 98 years. . . 0.006103515625% of today’s information is in the Public Domain

This is literally just one book out of some 10,000 books that will be in the Public Domain after about 95 years of a 95 year copyright even if information does NOT continue to increase faster and faster. . . .

Many people think information is ALREADY doubling faster than 7 years for each doubling, but all that does is make the total reach 0.00001% etc., etc., etc.

And you though Big Brother had a thing for monopolizing information.

This is the beginning of

The Information Wars

Since they can no longer stop us from talking to each other via email or etext

or the Web, or FTP, etc., they are passing laws that tell us we cannot include 99.99% of all the information in the world, because it is not all protected by copyright.

One last word about the new copyright law. . . .

I plan to be in court as soon as possible as a test case to defeat it once and for all. . .wish me luck!

1. The 36 Project Gutenberg Etexts for April, 1999.

We have chosen, with great effort and glee, to present what many call the greatest epic of all time as our lead story this month. . .in two separate translations. . .The Odyssey, by Homer.

We are also including more Plato and Socrates, O Henry, H. Rider Haggard, and B. M. Bower, as well as several more G. K Chestertons, Balzacs, Conrads, etc. including some of Gaskell's Life of Charlotte Bronte. We also included a bit more Mary Roberts Rinehart and Jules Verne.

We hope you enjoy reading these as much as we enjoy bringing them to you.

Mon Year Title and Author [filename.ext]####

Correction from last month:

Mar 1999 1492, by Mary Johnston [For Columbus Day, 1998] [c1492xxx.xxx]1692 Johnston. . .not Johnson

Apr 1999 The Odyssey, by Homer, Butcher & Lang Tr[Homer #3] [dyssyxxa.xxx]1728 This is currently dyssy08a.txt and .zip, will be 10a when proofing completed.

Apr 1999 The Odyssey, by Homer, Trans by Butler [Homer #2] [dyssyxxx.xxx]1727 This is version dyssy10.txt and .zip

Also see Collection of Hesiod, Homer and Homerica [homerxxx.xxx] 348

Apr 1999 Theaetetus, by Plato [More of Socrates][Plato #25] [thtusxxx.xxx]1726

Apr 1999 Heart of the West, by O Henry [O Henry #5][hrtwsxxx.xxx]1725

Apr 1999 Finished, by H. Rider Haggard[H. Rider Haggard #6] [fnshdxxx.xxx]1724

Apr 1999 Cow-Country, by B. M. Bower [B. M. Bower Etext #6] [cwcntxxx.xxx]1723

Apr 1999 Martin Luther's Large Catechism, Bente & Dau, Trns[lrgctxxx.xxx]1722

Apr 1999 The Trees of Pride, by Gilbert K. Chesterton [#12] [trprdxxx.xxx]1721

Apr 1999 The Man Who Knew Too Much, by G. K. Chesterton #5A[mwktmxxa.xxx]1720 From a different source than our February edition of this.

Apr 1999 The Ballad of the White Horse by GK Chesterton #11[botwhxxx.xxx]1719

Apr 1999 Manalive, by G. K. Chesterton[G.K. Chesterton #10] [mnalvxxx.xxx]1718

Apr 1999 What's Wrong With The World, by GK Chesterton [#9] [wwwtwxxx.xxx]1717

Apr 1999 Copy-Cat & Other Stories by Mary Wilkins Freeman#2[cpyctxxx.xxx]1716

Apr 1999 Eugenie Grandet, by Honore de Balzac [Balzac #63] [gngndxxx.xxx]1715

Apr 1999 Another Study of Woman, by Honore de Balzac[dB#62] [nswmnxxx.xxx]1714

Apr 1999 Lincoln's Personal Life by Nathaniel W. Stephenson[lsplfxxx.xxx]1713

Apr 1999 The Rescue, by Joseph Conrad [Joseph Conrad #23] [trscuxxx.xxx]1712

Apr 1999 Child of Storm, by H. Rider Haggard [Haggard #5] [cstrmxxx.xxx]1711

Apr 1999 La Grande Breteche, by Honore de Balzac[Balzac#61] [brtchxxx.xxx]1710

Apr 1999 New Grub Street, by George Gissing [Gissing #2] [nwgrbxxx.xxx]1709 John Handford John@croulant.demon.co.uk*

Apr 1999 A History of Science, V 4, by Henry Smith Williams[4hscixxx.xxx]1708

Apr 1999 A History of Science, V 3, by Henry Smith Williams[3hscixxx.xxx]1707

Apr 1999 A History of Science, V 2, by Henry Smith Williams[2hscixxx.xxx]1706

Apr 1999 A History of Science, V 1, by Henry Smith Williams[1hscixxx.xxx]1705 There is also a V 5, but we haven't done that one yet. . . .

Apr 1999 Pierrette, by Honore de Balzac [de Balzac #60][prrttxxx.xxx]1704

Apr 1999 Dead Men Tell No Tales, by E. W. Hornung [EWH #3] [dmtntxxx.xxx]1703

Apr 1999 19th Century Actor Autobiographies, by George Iles[aautoxxx.xxx]1702

Apr 1999 Story Of Waitstill Baxter, by Kate D. Wiggin [#10] [tsowbxxx.xxx]1701

Apr 1999 Life of Charlotte Bronte, V2, by E. C. Gaskell[#2] [2locbxxx.xxx]1700

Apr 1999 The Vanished Messenger by E. Phillips Oppenheim #4[vmsgrxxx.xxx]1699

Apr 1999 The Survivors of the Chancellor, by Jules Verne #8[tsotcxxa.xxx]1698 This is from a different source than our previous edition.

Apr 1999 Madam How and Lady Why, by Charles Kingsley[CK #7] [hwwhyxxx.xxx]1697

Apr 1999 The Club of Queer Trades, by G. K. Chesterton/ GKC8[tcoqtxxx.xxx]1696

Apr 1999 The Man Who Was Thursday, by G. K. Chesterton/ GKC7[tmwhtxxx.xxx]1695

Apr 1999 Our Legal Heritage, by S. A. Reilly [rlglhxxx.xxx]1694

Apr 1999 Dangerous Days, by Mary Roberts Rinehart [MRR #8]

[ddaysxxx.xxx]1693

1. The 49 NEW Project Gutenberg Complete Works of Shakespeare, this one is in the Public Domain, at least in the U.S.

Remember: these are in /etext98, we reserved the slots for them before we got on the HUGE production run that doubled the Etexts coming out over the past three months. . .during this period our volunteers have created about 266 Etext files for you to read.

The revised versions of our OLD Shakespeare are done and will be announced. . .I just don't have the filenames for them. . .since we didn't release them as separate files back in 1994, we cannot just put them in /etext94 as updates to old filenames. This may mean they will have to appear as June and July, 1999 Etexts; the April Etexts are all done, and we may have already started May.

Nov 1998 Locrine/Mucedorus, Shakespeare Apocrypha [1ws48xxx.xxx]1548

Nov 1998 Sir Thomas More, Shakespeare Apocrypha [1ws47xxx.xxx]1547

Nov 1998 Sonnets/Sundry 1Notess of Music, William Shakespeare[1ws46xxx.xxx]1546

Nov 1998 The Passionate Pilgrim, by William Shakespeare [3ws45xxx.xxx]1545

Nov 1998 The Passionate Pilgrim, by William Shakespeare [2ws45xxx.xxx]1544

Nov 1998 A Lover's Complaint, by William Shakespeare [2ws44xxx.xxx]1543

Nov 1998 The Two Noble Kinsmen, Shakespeare Apocrypha [2ws43xxx.xxx]1542

Nov 1998 King Henry VIII, by William Shakespeare [2ws43xxx.xxx]1541

Nov 1998 The Tempest, by William Shakespeare [2ws41xxx.xxx]1540

Nov 1998 The Winter's Tale, by William Shakespeare [2ws40xxx.xxx]1539

Nov 1998 Cymbeline, by William Shakespeare [2ws39xxx.xxx]1538

Nov 1998 Pericles, by William Shakespeare [2ws38xxx.xxx]1537

Nov 1998 Timon of Athens, by William Shakespeare [2ws37xxx.xxx]1536

Nov 1998 Coriolanus, by William Shakespeare [2ws36xxx.xxx]1535

Nov 1998 Antony and Cleopatra, by William Shakespeare [2ws35xxx.xxx]1534

Nov 1998 Macbeth, by William Shakespeare [2ws34xxx.xxx]1533

Nov 1998 King Lear, by William Shakespeare [2ws33xxx.xxx]1532

Nov 1998 Othello, by Shakespeare [2ws32xxx.xxx]1531

Nov 1998 Measure for Measure, by William Shakespeare [2ws31xxx.xxx]1530

Nov 1998 All's Well That Ends Well, by William Shakespeare [2ws30xxx.xxx]1529

Nov 1998 Troilus and Cressida, by William Shakespeare [2ws29xxx.xxx]1528

Nov 1998 Twelfth Night, by William Shakespeare [3ws28xxx.xxx]1527

Nov 1998 Twelfth Night, by William Shakespeare [2ws28xxx.xxx]1526

Nov 1998 The Phoenix and the Turtle, by William Shakespeare[2ws27xxx.xxx]1525

Nov 1998 Hamlet, by William Shakespeare [2ws26xxx.xxx]1524

Nov 1998 As You Like It, by William Shakespeare [2ws25xxx.xxx]1523

Nov 1998 Julius Caesar, by William Shakespeare [2ws24xxx.xxx]1522

Nov 1998 King Henry V, by William Shakespeare [2ws23xxx.xxx]1521

Nov 1998 Much Ado About Nothing, by William Shakespeare [3ws22xxx.xxx]1520

Nov 1998 Much Ado About Nothing, by William Shakespeare [2ws22xxx.xxx]1519

Nov 1998 King Henry IV, Part 2, by William Shakespeare [2ws21xxx.xxx]1518

Nov 1998 The Merry Wives of Windsor, by William Shakespeare[2ws20xxx.xxx]1517

Nov 1998 King Henry IV, Part 1, by William Shakespeare

[2ws19xxx.xxx]1516

Nov 1998 The Merchant of Venice, by William Shakespeare [2ws18xxx.xxx]1515

Nov 1998 A Midsummer Night's Dream, by William Shakespeare [2ws17xxx.xxx]1514

Nov 1998 Romeo and Juliet, by William Shakespeare [2ws16xxx.xxx]1513

Oct 1998 King Richard II, by William Shakespeare [2ws15xxx.xxx]1512

Oct 1998 King John, by William Shakespeare [2ws14xxx.xxx]1511

Oct 1998 Love's Labour's Lost, by William Shakespeare [2ws12xxx.xxx]1510

Oct 1998 Two Gentlemen of Verona, by William Shakespeare [2ws11xxx.xxx]1509

Oct 1998 The Taming of the Shrew, by William Shakespeare [2ws10xxx.xxx]1508

Oct 1998 The Tragedy of Titus Andronicus, by Wm Shakespeare[2ws09xxx.xxx]1507

Oct 1998 The Rape of Lucrece, by William Shakespeare [3ws08xxx.xxx]1506

Oct 1998 The Rape of Lucrece, by William Shakespeare [2ws08xxx.xxx]1505

Oct 1998 The Comedy of Errors, by William Shakespeare [2ws06xxx.xxx]1504

Oct 1998 King Richard III, by William Shakespeare [2ws04xxx.xxx]1503

Oct 1998 King Henry VI, Part 3, by William Shakespeare [2ws03xxx.xxx]1502

Oct 1998 King Henry VI, Part 2, by William Shakespeare [2ws02xxx.xxx]1501

Oct 1998 King Henry VI, Part 1, by William Shakespeare [2ws01xxx.xxx]1500

1. The NEWLY REVISED editions of our 100th Etext, the copyrighted version of Shakespeare's works. . .1,000s of errors corrected!

These will likely be in /etext99, stay tuned for Newsletters from Sue and Greg about these.

The filenames will be same as above only instead of starting with a 2 or 3, they will start with 1, and the revision number is 11:

so 2ws0110.txt and .zip are the NEW Public Domain edition of Henry as listed above in /etect98 and 1ws0111.txt and .zip will be the revised [11] old copyrighted edition in /etext94 and the new files will be in /etext99

If you have any problems finding these on your own, you can ask Sue Asscher, listed above, how to find them. If you are using an index, don't forget that it takes our indexers quite a while to get this many etext indexed, so you might want learn how to use FTP, or the FTP functions in your browers, to get them now.

Remember: if you get these files directly, without a "point and click" you will need to go to three different directories:

April will be in /etext99 The NEW Shakespeare will be in /etext98 The revised versions from Etext #100 will be in /etext99 The original version of Etext #100 is still in /etext94 Etext #100 was originally released on December 10, 1993, for an official release date of January, 1994. Hard to believe we have posted 1628 Etexts since then, an average of nearly one Etext per day. [Literally ~.9]

1. Who is "the cat in the Cat in the Hat hat," anyway? Or what?

I am pictured as the 2nd in the list of the Wired 25 for 1998 and since I don't like having my picture taken, I tend to clown a bit for the camera to make it more exciting. . .so I am sitting in my chair in the middle of a country road through the cornfields with a "long-stemmed American Beauty" between my teeth. . .well you'll understand when/if you see the picture. . .and I'm wearing my own trademark red t-shirt with a "Cat in the Hat" hat. . . .

OK, let's make it brief, I often either break into a sweat or may seem too self-important when these things come up. . . .

First. . .please let me remind you that I probably do less than 1 percent of the work it takes to do Project Gutenberg; maybe less, when I consider how many Project Gutenberg sites there are that I don't even know about, and probably never will.

I accept any awards to Project Gutenberg, or myself, on behalf of all of our volunteers, past, present and future and I forward all the "Thank You

1Notess" I get, whether via email or snailmail on to the entire list of volunteers on our listserver.

I tried to get WIRED to give this award to Project Gutenberg as a whole: and you probably don't want to hear the whole story about that. . . .

To make a long story short Wired finally seems to have bought the tickets to send me to the award banquet to receive "The WIRED 25" award, for which they commisioned a world famous architect, and I also get a pair of tennis shoes, a hotel room, and a limo, to and from LAX. . .I promise to enjoy it all as much as possible in the honor of all our volunteers.

"THOSE WHO DARE THE WIRED 25 A SALUTE TO: DREAMERS, INVENTORS, MAVERICKS, LEADERS"

"Life is short.

"Especially when you're determined to break all the rules."

If you want to read the rest, I suppose I should encourage you to go out and buy the November issue of Wired. . .it says THE WIRED 25 right in the middle of the cover, can't miss it. The first half of my name is obscured by the 25. . . .

IT'S OFFICIAL: NEW NAME FOR NT 5.0. The next-gen OS becomes "Windows 2000." They are trying to get it out before 2000.

Nov 1998 Locrine/Mucedorus, Shakespeare Apocrypha [1ws48xxx.xxx]1548

Nov 1998 Sir Thomas More, Shakespeare Apocrypha [1ws47xxx.xxx]1547

Nov 1998 Sonnets/Sundry 1Notess of Music, William Shakespeare[1ws46xxx.xxx]1546

Nov 1998 The Passionate Pilgrim, by William Shakespeare [3ws45xxx.xxx]1545

Nov 1998 The Passionate Pilgrim, by William Shakespeare [2ws45xxx.xxx]1544

Nov 1998 A Lover's Complaint, by William Shakespeare [2ws44xxx.xxx]1543

Nov 1998 The Two Noble Kinsmen, Shakespeare Apocrypha [2ws43xxx.xxx]1542

Nov 1998 King Henry VIII, by William Shakespeare [2ws43xxx.xxx]1541

Nov 1998 The Tempest, by William Shakespeare [2ws41xxx.xxx]1540

Nov 1998 The Winter's Tale, by William Shakespeare [2ws40xxx.xxx]1539

Nov 1998 Cymbeline, by William Shakespeare [2ws39xxx.xxx]1538

Nov 1998 Pericles, by William Shakespeare [2ws38xxx.xxx]1537

Nov 1998 Timon of Athens, by William Shakespeare [2ws37xxx.xxx]1536

Nov 1998 Coriolanus, by William Shakespeare [2ws36xxx.xxx]1535

Nov 1998 Antony and Cleopatra, by William Shakespeare [2ws35xxx.xxx]1534

Nov 1998 Macbeth, by William Shakespeare [2ws34xxx.xxx]1533

Nov 1998 King Lear, by William Shakespeare [2ws33xxx.xxx]1532

Nov 1998 Othello, by Shakespeare [2ws32xxx.xxx]1531

Nov 1998 Measure for Measure, by William Shakespeare [2ws31xxx.xxx]1530

Nov 1998 All's Well That Ends Well, by William Shakespeare [2ws30xxx.xxx]1529

Nov 1998 Troilus and Cressida, by William Shakespeare [2ws29xxx.xxx]1528

Nov 1998 Twelfth Night, by William Shakespeare [3ws28xxx.xxx]1527

Nov 1998 Twelfth Night, by William Shakespeare [2ws28xxx.xxx]1526

Nov 1998 The Phoenix and the Turtle, by William Shakespeare[2ws27xxx.xxx]1525

Nov 1998 Hamlet, by William Shakespeare [2ws26xxx.xxx]1524

Nov 1998 As You Like It, by William Shakespeare [2ws25xxx.xxx]1523

Nov 1998 Julius Caesar, by William Shakespeare [2ws24xxx.xxx]1522

Nov 1998 King Henry V, by William Shakespeare [2ws23xxx.xxx]1521

Nov 1998 Much Ado About Nothing, by William Shakespeare [3ws22xxx.xxx]1520

Nov 1998 Much Ado About Nothing, by William Shakespeare [2ws22xxx.xxx]1519

Nov 1998 King Henry IV, Part 2, by William Shakespeare [2ws21xxx.xxx]1518

Nov 1998 The Merry Wives of Windsor, by William Shakespeare[2ws20xxx.xxx]1517

Nov 1998 King Henry IV, Part 1, by William Shakespeare [2ws19xxx.xxx]1516

Nov 1998 The Merchant of Venice, by William Shakespeare [2ws18xxx.xxx]1515

Nov 1998 A Midsummer Night's Dream, by William Shakespeare [2ws17xxx.xxx]1514

Nov 1998 Romeo and Juliet, by William Shakespeare [2ws16xxx.xxx]1513

Oct 1998 King Richard II, by William Shakespeare [2ws15xxx.xxx]1512

Oct 1998 King John, by William Shakespeare [2ws14xxx.xxx]1511

Oct 1998 Love's Labour's Lost, by William Shakespeare [2ws12xxx.xxx]1510

Oct 1998 Two Gentlemen of Verona, by William Shakespeare [2ws11xxx.xxx]1509

Oct 1998 The Taming of the Shrew, by William Shakespeare [2ws10xxx.xxx]1508

Oct 1998 The Tragedy of Titus Andronicus, by Wm Shakespeare[2ws09xxx.xxx]1507

Oct 1998 The Rape of Lucrece, by William Shakespeare [3ws08xxx.xxx]1506

Oct 1998 The Rape of Lucrece, by William Shakespeare [2ws08xxx.xxx]1505

Oct 1998 The Comedy of Errors, by William Shakespeare [2ws06xxx.xxx]1504

Oct 1998 King Richard III, by William Shakespeare [2ws04xxx.xxx]1503

Oct 1998 King Henry VI, Part 3, by William Shakespeare [2ws03xxx.xxx]1502

Oct 1998 King Henry VI, Part 2, by William Shakespeare [2ws02xxx.xxx]1501

Oct 1998 King Henry VI, Part 1, by William Shakespeare [2ws01xxx.xxx]1500

MICROSOFT SAYS IT WAS NETSCAPE THAT SUGGESTED A DEAL In the antitrust suit against Microsoft, Microsoft has introduced a December 1994 e-mail message from Netscape chairman James Clark as evidence that it was Netscape rather than Microsoft that first suggested an arrangement to illegally restrain trade. Clark had written to a Microsoft executive: “We have never planned to compete with you. We want to make this company a success, but not at Microsoft’s expense. We’d like to work with you. Working together could be in your self-interest as well as ours. Depending on the interest level, you might take an equity position in Netscape, with the ability to expand the position later.” He added: “No one in my organization knows about this message.” A Microsoft attorney yesterday asked Netscape president James Barksdale of Netscape chairman and cofounder James Clark: “Do you regard him as a truthful man?” Barksdale paused and then replied: “I regard him as a salesman.” The Microsoft attorney said: “I’m not going to touch that.” (New York Times 22 Oct 98)

ANOTHER TRY AT FREE NET SERVICE NetZero Inc. is offering free Internet service to consumers, operating on an advertising-based business model. The company isn’t selling your typical banner ad, however. NetZero’s banners can “follow” users from site to site as they peruse the Web. The company says it’s spent a year developing software that tracks users’ habits, enabling advertisers to pinpoint their messages more efficiently. “We can target within a 12-mile radius of where (a subscriber) lives,” says NetZero’s CEO. Idealab Capital Partners, which is backing the venture, thinks subscribers will like the free access despite the ads. “People are spending $21.95 a month for AOL – that’s a lot of money,” says Idealab’s managing director. “We offer a value proposition that’s hard to beat.” (Investor’s Business Daily 19 Oct 98)

“GRASSROOTS” LOBBY EFFORT ROOTED AT AT&T The Prince George’s Coalition Against Hidden Taxes, supposedly a grassroots lobbying effort organized in Maryland, has been revealed to be a massive effort by AT&T to defeat proposed legislation that would charge a fee of 3% of gross revenues generated by telecom companies seeking to use public rights of way to lay cable, string wire, or plant cellular towers to provide new services. AT&T considers the legislation unfair because it singles out telecommunications companies from other users of public land, such as sanitary commissions and gas & electric companies. Calling the Coalition’s media campaign a “massive fraud,” the Prince George’s County chief executive said, “This isn’t any

citizens coalition. This is a bunch of giant companies trying to profit off the public for free." (Washington Post 24 Oct 98)

E-BOOKS TO COME SINGING DOWN THE WIRE Saying that "if you can get to the Web, you can buy a book – instantly," the chief executive of NuvoMedia unveiled his company's paperback-size, 22-ounce $499 electronic Rocket eBook at Barnes & Noble, the bookstore and publishing company that will make titles available for downloading onto a personal computer. Books will sell for $18 to $25, and downloading of a book will take 2 to 5 minutes. Tapping a button will allow the reader to scroll through the book, which will include a built-in dictionary and allow electronic underlining, note-taking, word search, and font changes. Generally similar products are being developed by other manufacturers, including SoftBook Press and Everybook Inc. (AP 23 Oct 98)

Edupage … is what you've just finished reading excerpts of– to subscribe to Edupage: send mail to: listproc@educom.unc.edu with the message: subscribe edupage Susan B. Anthony (if your name is Susan B. Anthony; otherwise use your own name To unsubscribe send a message to: listproc@educom.unc.edu with the message: unsubscribe edupage. If you have problems, send email to manager@educom.unc.edu.) "I love Edupage." mh Edupage is written by John Gehl (gehl@educom.edu), and Suzanne Douglas (douglas@educom.edu). USA Telephone: 770-590-1017

http://www.educom.edu/web/pubs/pubHomeFrame.html

Edupage is supported by Educom

Mac users can download our .txt files in binary mode to avoid the double spacing cr/lf line ends creates. Or download the .zip files, which unzip properly for nearly any operating system they are unzipped for…

About the Project Gutenberg Newsletter: [Goes out approximately first Wednesday of each month. But different relays will get it to you at different times; you can subscribe directly, just send me email to find out how, or surf to promo.net/pg to subscribe directly by yourself.]

JANUARY 1999

This is the Project Gutenberg Newsletter of Wednesday, January 6, 1999

[Usually sent the first Wednesday of each month, delayed if by relay.] Main URL is promo.net Webmaster is Pietro di Miceli, of Rome, Italy

As you may recall from past years, we usually do not send this out the first

Wednesday of the year, so it won't get lost in your mailbox when you return from the holidays, but this year is just going to be so hot with potential that I thought we should get a head start.

More about all of the 1999 project and deadlines shortly.

Right now we just need to get more xeroxes in from pre-1923 editions, so we can get your copyright research done.

We have more interest than ever in getting all languages on line; this will take an ENORMOUS effort, and we will need some very energetic and patient volunteers to coordinate these efforts. We would like to find at least two or three volunteers willing to be Team Leader for various language teams we will be forming. . .this is going to take some work!

We will be notifying all those who volunteered to work on Spanish. . !

Here are some examples of other interests:

From: Leonidas Hatzinikolaou leonidas@hatzinikolaou.org I write to you, Michael, with the following proposal: I'm volunteering to undertake the task of coordinating a collective effort in my country to digitally publish Greek books in the public domain, both in the Greek language and translations of them (wherever they can be found) in English, under the auspices of the GUTENBERG PROJECT. The formats and all rules of submissions of the e-texts will be according to the rules established by the GUTENBERG PROJECT. I will try to spread the message all over Greece asking for more volunteers to help in our task. I will check-out the texts, their copyright status, etc. Currently I have a web site under development (http:// www.hatzinikolaou.org), where I can host the Greek e-texts (which require Greek fonts, etc.), which, of course, I will forward as soon as I receive them to the GUTENBERG PROJECT.

and. . .

Can we work on a few pieces of art, or more music?

Is it possible to, for example, generate a nice image of the Mona Lisa? Or a few more MIDI files of the great classics? Maybe some of DaVinci's neat graphics.

It's not text, but would be nice to spice things up. What I don't know about are the copyright problems for art and how to get a high-rez image….I could visit France and take my own photos…

For suggested books (I'm not volunteering, but in case you want ideas to pass on);

Principia mathematica, by Alfred North Whitehead and Bertrand Russell. (1910)

also Newton's Principia (don't know how old an English translation we can find…

And. . .a piece of good news for you who buying new computers:

Current PC sales at the end of 1998:

$1,000 is the current average price– $800 - $1200 accounts for 67% of all: 1 computer out of 6 costs over $1200: 1 computer out of 6 costs under $800.

And now here are the usual 36 Etexts we provide in each Newsletter. . . .

28 are officially for release in August, 1999, and 8 or 9 more in June, 1999. . .you MAY want to replace the listing we sent to you for June two months ago, as it will be easier than pasting in.

Mon Year Title and Author [filename.ext]####

Aug 1999 North America, Vol. 2, by Anthony Trollope [AT #4] [2noamxxx.xxx]1866

Aug 1999 North America, Vol. 1, by Anthony Trollope [AT #3] [1noamxxx.xxx]1865

Aug 1999 Hero Tales From American History, Lodge/Roosevelt [htfahxxx.xxx]1864

Aug 1999 From Cornhill to Grand Cairo by Thackeray [WMT #6] [crhcrxxx.xxx]1863

Aug 1999 Tartarin of Tarascon, by Alphonse Daudet [trtrnxxx.xxx]1862

Aug 1999 An Old Town By The Sea by Thomas Bailey Aldrich #6[ldtwnxxx.xxx]1861

Aug 1999 Westward Ho! by Charles Kingsley[Chas Kingsley #8] [wsthoxxx.xxx]1860

Aug 1999 The Works of Max Beerbohm, by Max Beerbohm[Max #6] [twombxxx.xxx]1859

Aug 1999 Plain Tales from the Hills, by Rudyard Kipling[#5] [ptfthxxx.xxx]1858

Aug 1999 Initials Only, by Anna Katharine Green [Green #3] [ionlyxxx.xxx]1857

Aug 1999 Cousin Pons, by Honore de Balzac [de Balzac #74] [cspnsxxx.xxx]1856

Aug 1999 Ban and Arriere Ban, by Andrew Lang[Andr. Lang#15] [bnabnxxx.xxx]1855

Aug 1999 Catherine de Medici, by Honore de Balzac/ Balzac#73[ctdmdxxx.xxx]1854

Aug 1999 The Ninth Vibration, et. al., by L. Adams Beck #8 [9thvbxxx.xxx]1853

Aug 1999 The Interpreter, by L. Adams Beck [LAB #7][9thvbxxx.xxx]1853

Aug 1999 The Incomparable Lady, by L. Adams Beck [LAB #6] [9thvbxxx.xxx]1853

Aug 1999 The Hatred of the Queen, by L. Adams Beck [LAB #5] [9thvbxxx.xxx]1853

Aug 1999 The Fire of Beauty, by L. Adams Beck [LAB #4] [9thvbxxx.xxx]1853

Aug 1999 The Building of the Taj Majal, by L. Adams Beck #3[9thvbxxx.xxx]1853

Aug 1999 How Great is the Glory of Kwannon! by L Adams Beck[9thvbxxx.xxx]1853

Aug 1999 The Round-Faced Beauty, by L. Adams Beck [LAB#1] [9thvbxxx.xxx]1853

Aug 1999 Lucile, by Owen Meredith [lucilxxx.xxx]1852

Aug 1999 The Woman in the Alcove by Anna Katharine Green #2[wintaxxx.xxx]1851

Aug 1999 Old Christmas, by Washington Irving [Irving #5] [oxmasxxx.xxx]1850

Aug 1999 The Yellow Crayon, by E. Phillips Oppenheim[EPO#5] [ycrynxxx.xxx]1849

Aug 1999 Montezuma's Daughter, by H. Rider Haggard [HRH #7] [mzdtrxxx.xxx]1848

Aug 1999 Songs, Merry and Sad, by John Charles McNeill [sngmsxxx.xxx]1847

Aug 1999 The Vision Splendid, by William MacLeod Raine [#3] [vspldxxx.xxx]1846

Aug 1999 The Vision Spendid, by William MacLeod Raine [#3] [vspldxxx.xxx]1846

Aug 1999 Zuleika Dobson, by Max Beerbohm [Max Beerbohm #5] [zdbsnxxx.xxx]1845

Aug 1999 The Scholemaster, by Roger Ascham [In Markup] [smstrxxx.xxx]1844

Aug 1999 The Schoolmaster, by Roger Ascham [In Markup] [smstrxxx.xxx]1844

Aug 1999 Vera, The Medium, by Richard Harding Davis[RHD#29] [veramxxx.xxx]1843

Aug 1999 Michael Strogoff, by Jules Verne [Jules Verne #9] [strgfxxx.xxx]1842

Aug 1999 Z. Marcas, by Honore de Balzac [de Balzac #72] [zmrcsxxx.xxx]1841

Aug 1999 The Financier, by Theodore Dreiser [tfncrxxx.xxx]1840

Aug 1999 Other Things Being Equal, by Emma Wolf [otbeqxxx.xxx]1839

May 1999 Laws, by Plato [#29 and last of this Plato series] [plawsxxx.xxx]1750

[We would love to do more tranlations of Plato, if you are have any. Michael]

And here is a more complete and more organized listing for June, 1999

Etexts #1765 thru #1802 are mosly corrected Shakespeare.

Mon Year Title and Author [filename.ext]####

Jun 1999 The Winter's Tale, by Shakespeare [1ws4011x.xxx]1800

Jun 1999 Cymbeline, by Shakespeare [1ws3911x.xxx]1799

Jun 1999 Timon of Athens, by Shakespeare [1ws3711x.xxx]1798

Jun 1999 Coriolanus, by Shakespeare [1ws3611x.xxx]1797

Jun 1999 Antony and Cleopatra, by Shakespeare [1ws3511x.xxx]1796

Jun 1999 Macbeth, by William Shakespeare [1ws34xxx.xxx]1795

Jun 1999 King Lear, by Shakespeare [1ws3311x.xxx]1794

Jun 1999 Othello, by William Shakespeare [1ws32xxx.xxx]1793

Jun 1999 Measure for Measure, by William Shakespeare [1ws31xxx.xxx]1792

Jun 1999 All's Well That Ends Well, by Shakespeare [1ws3011x.xxx]1791

Jun 1999 Troilus and Cressida, by Shakespeare [1ws2911x.xxx]1790

Jun 1999 RESERVED for More Shakepeare or Apocrypha [x.xxx]1789

RESERVED: 1788 will be "Sir John Oldcastle" coming from Tony Adam

Jun 1999 Hamlet, by Shakespeare [1ws2611x.xxx]1787

Jun 1999 As You Like It, by Shakespeare [1ws2511x.xxx]1786

Jun 1999 Julius Caesar, by Shakespeare [1ws2411x.xxx]1785

Jun 1999 King Henry V, by Shakespeare [1ws2311x.xxx]1784

Jun 1999 Much Ado About Nothing, by Shakespeare [1ws2211x.xxx]1783

Jun 1999 King Henry IV, Part 2, by Shakespeare [1ws2111x.xxx]1782

Jun 1999 The Merry Wives of Windsor, by Shakespeare [1ws2011x.xxx]1781

Jun 1999 King Henry IV, Part 1, by Shakespeare [1ws1911x.xxx]1780

Jun 1999 The Merchant of Venice, by Shakespeare [1ws1811x.xxx]1779

Jun 1999 A Midsummer Night's Dream, by William Skakespeare [1ws17xxx.xxx]1778

Jun 1999 Romeo and Juliet, by William Shakespeare [1ws16xxx.xxx]1777

Jun 1999 King Richard II, by Shakespeare [1ws1511x.xxx]1776

Jun 1999 King John, by Shakespeare [1ws1411x.xxx]1775

Jun 1999 Love's Labour's Lost, by Shakespeare [1ws1211x.xxx]1774

Jun 1999 Two Gentlemen of Verona, by Shakespeare [1ws1111x.xxx]1773

Jun 1999 The Taming of the Shrew, by Shakespeare [1ws1011x.xxx]1772

Jun 1999 Titus Andronicus, by William Shakespeare [1ws09xxx.xxx]1771

Jun 1999 King Edward III, Shakespeare Apocrypha [1ws50xxx.xxx]1770

Jun 1999 The Comedy of Errors, by Shakespeare [1ws0611x.xxx]1769

Jun 1999 King Richard III, by Shakespeare [1ws0411x.xxx]1768

Jun 1999 RESERVED for More Shakepeare or Apocrypha [xxx.xxx]1767

Jun 1999 RESERVED for More Shakepeare or Apocrypha [xxx.xxx]1766

Jun 1999 Henry VI Part 1, by William Shakespeare [1ws01xxx.xxx]1765

Mac users can download our .txt files in binary mode to avoid the double spacing cr/lf line ends creates. Or download the .zip files, which unzip properly for nearly any operating system they are unzipped for…

About the Project Gutenberg Newsletter: [Goes out approximately first Wednesday of each month. But different relays will get it to you at different times; you can subscribe directly, just send me email to find out how, or surf to promo.net/pg to subscribe directly by yourself.]

LIBRARY REMOVES SOFTWARE FILTERS Responding to a federal court's ruling that the Loudoun County (VA.) library's use of software filters to screen out sexually explicit material on the Internet was unconstitutional (Edupage 24 Nov 98), the Library Board has removed filters from some of its computers and left them on others; adults will decide whether they want to use a computer with a filter or one without, and parents of minors will be asked to sign a statement specifying whether or not they want their child to have unfiltered Internet access. Library patron Becky Montcastle-Jones urged

the library board to appeal the court's ruling, saying: "We have not had pornographic or salacious material in our library. Why, just because we have new technology to get to it very quickly, should we have any different policy? In the video section, you can't go in there and get a pornographic movie. Librarians throughout history have had to make choices about what will be in the library. That's not censorship – that's choice." But board member Marc Leepson expressed the view of 6 out of the 8 board members: "I'm completely comfortable with the new policy. It's constitutional, and it still protects children." (Washington Post 3 Dec 98)

NBC ACQUIRES PART OF "WOMEN'S CONTENT" SITE Noting that women "happen to be the fastest-growing element on the Internet," an executive of the NBC television network has announced it will promote the iVillage Internet service, which he described as "the leading women's content site." NBC, in turn, will receive an ownership stake in that service, which now also provides information about parenting, families and health for special sites on Snap – an ad-supported Web site owned by NBC and C/NET. (USA Today 30 Nov 98)

NADER GROUP CHALLENGES AOL-NETSCAPE MERGER Washington, D.C.-based Consumer Project, a group run by long-time consumer advocate Ralph Nader, says it will vigorously oppose the merger between America Online and Netscape. "We feel this will harm competition in the ISP market," says director James Love. "ISPs will have to go to Netscape or Microsoft for browser software. They compete against both and if they have to go to them to get software, it creates all kinds of problems." Love says his group plans to ask the Justice Department or the Federal Trade Commission to nix the merger. "We don't care if Netscape sells its company to anybody else but AOL or Microsoft." (TechWeb 25 Nov 98)

DOD FALSIFIED Y2K DATA BUT HAS "GOOD FEELING" ABOUT FUTURE A Department of Defense inspector-general report says that the Defense Special Weapons Agency never conducted required tests on three of five "mission critical" computer systems it had certified as Y2K-compliant. The military officer assigned to correct the agency's Year 2000 problems says he agrees with the report but that the systems in question will be "100% in compliance" by April 1999: "I have a good feeling about Y2K in this agency." (USA Today 27-29 Nov 98)

Edupage … is what you've just finished reading excerpts of– to subscribe to Edupage: send mail to: listproc@educom.unc.edu with the message: subscribe edupage Susan B. Anthony (if your name is Susan B. Anthony; otherwise use your own name To unsubscribe send a message to: listproc@educom.unc.edu with the message: unsubscribe edupage. If you have problems, send email to

manager@educom.unc.edu.) “I love Edupage.” mh Edupage is written by John Gehl (gehl@educom.edu), and Suzanne Douglas (douglas@educom.edu). USA Telephone: 770-590-1017

http://www.educom.edu/web/pubs/pubHomeFrame.html

Edupage is supported by Educom

FEBRUARY 1999

This is Project Gutenberg’s Newsletter for Wednesday, February 3, 1999

Etexts Readable By Both Humans and Computers Since Before The Internet [Usually sent the first Wednesday of each month, delayed if by relay.] Main URL is promo.net Webmaster is Pietro di Miceli, of Rome, Italy

This Newsletter contains index entries for Etexts up to #1900 and thus Project Gutenberg has now completed about 19% of its primary goal of a production and distribution run of 10,000 easy to use Etexts.

We are hoping to do a Spanish edition of Don Quixote for #2000, but we need your help. If you have any old editions of Don Quixote or know a person or institution that does, please let me know. We don’t need to scan from the book, but we need one to do our copyright research from!

Our newest site:

www.gutenberg.cyberxs.nl/ An ISP for younger internet users runs their own mirror. They hope to soon have the site search-engine enabled.

Requests for assistance from our volunteers:

My sources show Legge “published monumental edition of”Chinese Classics”, with translation, prolegomena, and notes [28 vols, 1861-86]. by James Legge Please reply to me and to Rick Davis rdavis@yin.or.jp

“Does anyone have access to a first edition of ‘Alps and Sanctuaries of Piedmont and the Canton Ticino)’ by Samuel Butler? I need to know what was in chapter X and also the last few paragraphs of the book. Any help would be appreciated, email ccx074@coventry.ac.uk” David Price

“Help Wanted: I am in the process of typing out the collection of Samuel Adams’ writings gathered by H. A. Cushing (copyrighted 1904) and putting them on the web. Unfortunately, I do not own this collection, and must borrow it through the interlibrary loan. If anybody who either owns this work or can get it through your interlibrary loan system is interested in

helping with this project, please contact me at: Regina Azucena razucena@gis.net so that we can coordinate the work. Also if anyone has access to a scanner with OCR, this would be especially helpful, since at present I am typing by hand and the work is rather slow. The collection preserves the original spelling of Samuel Adams which is not at all uniform, and this makes the typing slower. I would be happy to find out for you if the collection is available through a library in your area."

The current issue of Information Week (1/11/99) has a review of three OCR products: Presto!, Textbridge, Omnipage. You can read it on-line at: http://www.informationweek.com/716/16olocr.htm

Announcement: Lextek International has released an ebook viewer called InfoBlast designed to work especially with the ebooks produced by Project Gutenberg and several of the other online book projects.

InfoBlast will index the ebook files letting users conduct keyword, phrase, proximity, and wildcard searches. (InfoBlast can index literally 100's of megabytes quickly so no matter how big your ebook(s) are it is easy to set them up for searching.)

You can also bookmark passages of text using InfoBlast making them easy to find again. Searches are also saved as a history so you can easily go back to your past searches. InfoBlast has links to a number of the largest ebook download sites on the net (including Gutenberg.net) where you can freely obtain ebooks to use with InfoBlast.

InfoBlast is available for download from:

http://www.1source.com/~pollarda/textview/

And now here are the Project Gutenberg Etexts concluding the run to #1900:

Mon Year Title and Author [filename.ext]####

Sep 1999 Typee, by Herman Melville [Herman Melville #2] [typeexxx.xxx]1900

Sep 1999 The Village Rector, by Honore de Balzac[Balzac#79] [vrctrxxx.xxx]1899

Sep 1999 Albert Savarus, by Honore de Balzac[de Balzac #78] [svrusxxx.xxx]1898

Sep 1999 The Seventh Man, by Max Brand [Max Brand #1]

[7thmnxxx.xxx]1897

Sep 1999 Under the Red Robe, by Stanley Weyman [Weyman #1] [rdrobxxx.xxx]1896

Sep 1999 Armadale, by Wilkie Collins [Wilkie Collins #20] [armdlxxx.xxx]1895

Sep 1999 Visit to Iceland, by Madame Ida Pfeiffer [IP #1] [vstilxxx.xxx]1894

Sep 1999 Song & Legend From the Middle Ages, by McClintocks[slfmaxxx.xxx]1893

Sep 1999 Extracts From Adam's Diary, by Mark Twain[Twain15] [xadamxxx.xxx]1892

Sep 1999 A Plea for Old Cap Collier by Irvin S. Cobb[Cobb4] [pfoccxxx.xxx]1891

Sep 1999 Speaking of Operations, by Irvin S. Cobb [Cobb #3] [spoprxxx.xxx]1890

Sep 1999 Bird Neighbors, by Neltje Blanchan [bdnbrxxx.xxx]1889

Sep 1999 The Bittermeads Mystery, by E. R. Punshon [btrmmxxx.xxx]1888

Sep 1999 The Life of the Spider, by J. Henri Fabre [lfspdxxx.xxx]1887

Sep 1999 Bunyan Characters (2nd Series), by Alex. Whyte #2 [2bnchxxx.xxx]1886

Sep 1999 reserved for 1st #1 [1bnchxxx.xxx]1885

Sep 1999 The Exiles, by Honore de Balzac [H de Balzac #77] [xilesxxx.xxx]1884

Sep 1999 The Wife, et al, by Anton Chekhov [Chekhov #14] [twifexxx.xxx]1883

The stories contained in addition are:

Sep 1999 Difficult People, by Anton Chekhov [Chekhov #13] [twifexxx.xxx]1883

Sep 1999 The Grasshopper, by Anton Chekhov [Chekhov #12] [twifexxx.xxx]1883

Sep 1999 A Dreary Story, by Anton Chekhov [Chekhov #11] [twifexxx.xxx]1883

Sep 1999 The Privy Councillor, by Anton Chekhov[Chekhov#10] [twifexxx.xxx]1883

Sep 1999 The Man in Case, by Anton Chekhov [Chekhov #9] [twifexxx.xxx]1883

Sep 1999 Gooseberries, by Anton Chekhov [Chekhov #8][twifexxx.xxx]1883

Sep 1999 About Love, by Anton Chekhov [Chekhov #7][twifexxx.xxx]1883

Sep 1999 The Lottery Ticket, by Anton Chekhov [Chekhov #6] [twifexxx.xxx]1883

Sep 1999 The Young Forester, by Zane Grey [Zane Grey #9] [yn4stxxx.xxx]1882

Sep 1999 The Call of the Canyon, by Zane Grey[Zane Grey #8] [tcotcxxx.xxx]1881

Sep 1999 The Pathfinder, by James Fenimore Cooper[Cooper#2] [pthfnxxx.xxx]1880

Sep 1999 Royalty Restored, by J. Fitzgerald Molloy [rruc2xxx.xxx]1879

Sep 1999 London under Charles II, by J. Fitzgerald Molloy [rruc2xxx.xxx]1879

Sep 1999 A Millionaire of Yesterday, E. Phillips Oppenheim [mlystxxx.xxx]1878

Sep 1999 A Mountain Woman, by Elia W. Peattie [Peattie #3] [mtwmnxxx.xxx]1877

Sep 1999 The Shape of Fear, by Elia W. Peattie [Peattie #2] [tshfrxxx.xxx]1876

Sep 1999 Painted Windows by Elia W. Peattie [Peattie #1] [pwndsxxx.xxx]1875

In addition, during the preparation of this Newsletter, we posted:

Sep 1999 Everybody's Guide to Money Matters, by Wm Cotton [egtmmxxx.xxx]1903

Sep 1999 The Old Peabody Pew by Kate Douglas Wiggin[KDW#13] [oldpwxxx.xxx]1902

Sep 1999 Secret of the Woods, by William J. Long [sctwdxxx.xxx]1901

From Edupage:

E-MAIL RESPONSES AT A SNAIL'S PACE A recent survey of Fortune 100 companies by e-mail software firm Brightware shows that many respondents allow e-mail to languish for days before responding to it. Four companies took a full week to respond to the question, "What is your corporate headquarters address?" (In one case, Hewlett-Packard took 23 days.) Rapid responders included Texaco, which responded within four minutes, and Albertson's and Costco, both of which responded within five minutes. Overall, fewer than 15% responded within three hours, and 26% either did not accept e-mail or made it so difficult to find e-mail information on their Web sites that a typical user probably would give up looking. (Los Angeles Times 18 Jan 99)

INTEL FLIPS SWITCH ON PENTIUM III'S I.D. FEATURE Responding to concerns by critics that the new Pentium III chip's unique serial number will allow the monitoring of an individual's moves throughout cyberspace, Intel has decided to alter the software so that the ID capability will be turned off unless the customer voluntarily turns it on to make a secure e-commerce transaction. (The original plan was to have the feature turned on unless the user took the trouble to turn it off.) But privacy advocates are not satisfied, and want the ID feature entirely disabled. Deirdre Mulligan of the Center for Democracy and Technology says, "If everybody's demanding it, it's going to be hard for a consumer to say no." (San Jose Mercury News 26 Jan 99)

LINUX USERS WANT THEIR MONEY BACK FROM MICROSOFT Aficionados of the Linux operating system, which is available for free, say they will demand their money back for Windows software installed against their wishes on PCs they buy. Their demand is based on a Windows licensing agreement that says that if the purchaser does not agree to the terms and conditions of use of the Windows software, he or she should promptly contact manufacturer for instructions on return of the unused product for a refund. Microsoft says that agreement applies only to the issues surrounding the of making copies of the software. (New York Times 25 Jan 99)

JUDGE EXTENDS BAN ON ENFORCEMENT OF CHILD PORN LAW U.S. District Court Judge Lowell A. Reed has extended his temporary ban on enforcement of the Child Online Protection Act, and signaled in a lengthy memorandum that he considers the act an unconstitutional violation of First

Amendment rights of free speech. To protect children from pornography transmitted through cyberspace, the federal Child Online Protection Act requires operators of commercial Web sites offering potentially objectionable material to establish a system to prevent minors from viewing that material. Judge Reed, a Reagan appointee, wrote: "Despite the Court's personal regret that this preliminary injunction will delay once again the careful protection of our children, I without hesitation acknowledge the duty imposed on the Court and the great good such duty serves. Indeed, perhaps we do the minors of this country harm if First Amendment protections, which they will with age inherit fully, are chipped away in the name of their protection." (San Jose Mercury News 2 Feb 99)

Edupage … is what you've just finished reading excerpts of– to subscribe to Edupage: send mail to: listproc@educom.unc.edu with the message: subscribe edupage Susan B. Anthony (if your name is Susan B. Anthony; otherwise use your own name To unsubscribe send a message to: listproc@educom.unc.edu with the message: unsubscribe edupage. If you have problems, send email to manager@educom.unc.edu.) "I love Edupage." mh Edupage is written by John Gehl (gehl@educom.edu), and Suzanne Douglas (douglas@educom.edu). USA Telephone: 770-590-1017

http://www.educom.edu/web/pubs/pubHomeFrame.html

Edupage is supported by Educom

From other media:

ACTING DUMB, OR AT LEAST LEARNING IMPAIRED, GETS THE BIG BUCKS

Last night, Feb. 3, one of the major networks did an expose on the practice of the residents of Greenwich, Connecticut] which is perhaps best known as the richest community in the USA], of having their students get extra funding, extra tutoring, extra exam time [even on the SATs], by the simple expedient of dumb, or as it is politically correctly stated, "learning impaired," "learning disabled," etc. In addition to the above, they also get special entitlement and money for tuition that is cut out of the budgets for the rest of the students of Connecticut or/ and their regional school districts. If you have any details, or corroborations, please let us know, as our information came from sketchy notes taken from the live evening news broadcast. Connecticut was/is famous in this area for once having, at the same time, the highest per capita income AND the lowest amount spent per student in their public schools, possibly because of a trend to send all the rich kids to private schools, and then to refuse to fund the public schools. This should also have a corroboration, as I heard it from a Connecticut teacher.

Speaking of corroboration, I received a number of statements a “modem tax” as many seemed to call ANY fee associated with the increased phone rates for using modems, never has happened. I can tell you from my personal experience that I have been at a college where their telco actually charged for an entire extra line wherever any modem was installed. Apparently, they had a system that allowed voice ONLY on “normal” lines so the charge could not be avoided. Apparently our local telcos have tried, and failed, to get additional modem charges as well. But that note about the national bills for similar things apparently is a hoax. . .my apologies. . .I got it from someone I have known for years. . .and who will get an extra copy of this as email.

And last, but certainly not least: for those of you receiving email from the LIBREF listserver about “Censorship,” and “Free Speech,” and a few other related topics. . .the reason you did not hear more about these is because my remarks, and, so I was told, those of several others, were. . .how to best put this:

“Censored. . . !”

My own censored remarks were only four lines replying to being compared to Austin Powers and other similar remarks, in which, I must say, I showed admirable restraint in NOT replying to an assortment of comments in bad taste, but only stating that the truth was that I am proud to be from the 60’s, and of what the people of the 60’s did; I won’t repeat those simple four lines here, even if it may be true that their censors don’t very far down toward the bottom of longer messages. However I will say that I did resend the note a second time, in response to their anonymous note saying they were putting an end to a discussion that had only had a half dozen notes over three days; I resent [this time a different word than resend] such anonymous notes, hiding behind the “moderator” login, and complained that their taste in posting the obviously in bad taste Austin Powers note was only exceeded by their refusing to post my very short, and very moderate reply. BTW, the last time LIBREF hosted message relays about free speech, the same thing happened, in terms of anonymous censorship. When I complained, they posted the note that had been censored, then, as I recall, still wanted to end the discussion with me having the last word. I send them that famous quote about:

I may not agree with what is being said, but I will defend, to the death, their right to say it.

They finally decided to let the conversation go on its own and the result was that it ended soon enough and simply enough w/o any interference from the “listowners” rather than moderators.

I wonder if we will have to go through all that again. . . .mh

Mac users can download our .txt files in binary mode to avoid the double spacing cr/lf line ends creates. Or download the .zip files, which unzip properly for nearly any operating system they are unzipped for…

About the Project Gutenberg Newsletter: [Goes out approximately first Wednesday of each month. But different relays will get it to you at different times; you can subscribe directly, just send me email to find out how, or surf to promo.net/pg to subscribe directly by yourself.]

You can subscribe or unsubscribe by yourself to the listservers we have running. . .if you are trying to unsubscribe, please be aware that MANY different listservers relay the newsletters from Project Gutenberg and Ask Dr. Internet, and that it is quite likely you do not receive our newsletters directly from our listservers. In any case of that nature, you would have to deal with the listserver in question, presuming you still wanted to unsubscribe in that case.

There are TWO Project Gutenberg Lists. . .volunteers will also want to subscribe to the “gutvol-l” list AND the “gutnberg” list, simply by including a second line with “gutvol-l” in place of “gutnberg.” [That is an “-L” after “gutvol” for the Volunteer’s Listserver.]

To SUBSCRIBE to the Project Gutenberg mailing list, “gutnberg” please send an email message to: listproc@listserv.oit.unc.edu

The subject line of the message will be ignored. The body of the message should contain the text:

subscribe gutnberg Your True Name

So, if your name were Dudley P. Duck, your message would contain:

subscribe gutnberg Dudley P. Duck

You do not need to include your email address, because Listprocessor gets it from the header of your email message.

Beware that the address must be “listproc@listserv.oit.unc.edu” You can’t address your message to an address like “listserv” or “listprocessor” or “majordom”

To UNSUBSCRIBE, just send this message to “listproc@listserv.oit.unc.edu”

unsubscribe gutnberg

If you are having trouble with the list, send a message to "owner-gutnberg@listserv.oit.unc.edu" and your message will be routed to the person who manages the list.

Thanks!!

Michael S. Hart [hart@pobox.com] Project Gutenberg Executive Director Internet User ~#100

MARCH 1999

This is a resend of yesterday's Newsletter. . .due to rebooting, a few things went wrong with the header and most copies did not go out. The error is now corrected in our mainframe, and we are including one book we did not include yesterday, a good one, to make it more worthwhile a thing for you if you actually got yesterday's copy. Apologies. . . mh

This is the Project Gutenberg Newsletter for, Wednesday, March 3, 1999

Etexts Readable By Both Humans and Computers Since Before The Internet [Usually sent the first Wednesday of each month, delayed if by relay.] Main URL is promo.net Webmaster is Pietro di Miceli, of Rome, Italy

We need lots of help this month. . .please see below, if willing. . .!

Below that. . .we also have another month's worth of Etexts for you!!!

1Contest:

1. Just found out today, we are going to NEED some moderate funds, now, not just what I had hoped for the future! . . .more later.
2. We Need Serious Help With Other Languages, More Than I Can Say.
3. Project Gutenberg Etexts Now Available Via FTPMail. . . .
4. Requests for Rafael Sabatini The Sea-Hawk, Captain Blood, or Banner of the Bull, pre-1923 books. 4 New This Month. . .besides the month's Etexts, more Shakespeare of the apocryphal nature, a new edition Webster's Unabridged Dictionary.

It looks like we are going to need some VERY serious people to help on doing Etexts in other languages. . .I am not willing to give up on the other languages. . .but I now realize just how important it is to have someone who can help coordinate the efforts in other languages. . . .

1. Don Quixote in Spanish

We are apparently going to need ALL THE HELP WE CAN POSSIBLY GET if

we are going to present this as our 2,000th Etext–if you know anyone who can help find pre-1923 editions, or who is willing to help proofread– I don't want to put this off. . .it is too good a choice. . .HELP!!!

Don Quixote in Spanish. . .we are not getting very far with this one– we have only about two more months before we COULD post Etext #2000… BUT…I am willing to put this off until 1/1/2000 if that's what it is going to take to get something rolling. I think it is very important, more than I can say, to do more Etexts in more languages. . . .

1. La Tulipe Noire in French

La Tulipe Noire, in French, by Alexandre Dumas. . .we have an Etext in . . .but it needs some serious proofreading. . .we would LOVE to do an entire series of Dumas in French and English, and others in French!

It is now possible to get any Gutenberg File via Email. You simply send a message to gutenberg@fireantproductions.com with your request in the subject and the file is sent back as a MIME attachment. Please note, however, that your request must follow a specific syntax in order to be fulfilled properly. For a complete set of instructions send a message to gutenberg@fireantproductions.com with the word and only the word "help" in the subject. That's help not Help or HELP. Also, do not include the quotes. If you have any questions, feel free to Email Aaron Cannon cannona@fireantproductions.com

Lets say that you want the book Marten Hyde. Well that book is called mhyde10.txt and it is in the etext98 directory. To get via email, simply send a message to gutenberg@fireantproductions.com with a subject line of "get etext98 mhyde10.txt" without the quotes. So your message would look something like this:

From: you@yoursite.com To: gutenberg@fireantproductions.com Subject: get etext98 mhyde10.txt

The message body is ignored.

New this month:

Addition to our recent new releases of Shakespeare: Jun 1999 Sir John Oldcastle, Shakespeare [Apocryphal] [1ws5110x.xxx]1788

We have also fixed 1ws2610.* which were accidentally saved as WordPerfect files rather than in PVASCII. Those are in /etext97

We have also corrected thousands of errors in Etexts over the past month or two while things were slowed down over the holidays. Of course, with approximately 2,000 Etexts, this represents only an average of a few errors corrected in each one, but you will find more corrections in those with filenames with higher numbers. i.e. xxxxx11.txt will have major corrections from *10.txt and xxxxxx12.txt will have major corrections from* 11.txt, and so on. We hope you will continue to send us email of any errors or suggestions. We do not ALWAYS change the version number when we make only a few correction, but it might be worthwhile to download new copies once a year or so, or to check the dates on the prairienet.org site against the dates on your files. . .I don't think the other sites keep our dates, sorry. . .except that the .zip files should unzip to the real file dates.

We have done a massive update of our 1913 Webster's Unabridged, and version 05 is NOT copyrighted. . . .

Sep 1996 The Gutenberg Webster's Unabridged Dictionary [XZ] [pgwxzxxx.xxx] 670 Sep 1996 The Gutenberg Webster's Unabridged Dictionary [TW][pgwtwxxx.xxx] 669

Sep 1996 The Gutenberg Webster's Unabridged Dictionary [S] [pgwsxxxx.xxx] 668 Sep 1996 The Gutenberg Webster's Unabridged Dictionary [R] [pgwrxxxx.xxx] 667 Sep 1996 The Gutenberg Webster's Unabridged Dictionary [PQ][pgwpqxxx.xxx] 666 Sep 1996 The Gutenberg Webster's Unabridged Dictionary [MO][pgwmoxxx.xxx] 665

Sep 1996 The Gutenberg Webster's Unabridged Dictionary [IL] [pgwilxxx.xxx] 664 Sep 1996 The Gutenberg Webster's Unabridged Dictionary [FH][pgwfhxxx.xxx] 663 Sep 1996 The Gutenberg Webster's Unabridged Dictionary [DE][pgwdexxx.xxx] 662 Sep 1996 The Gutenberg Webster's Unabridged Dictionary [C] [pgwcxxxx.xxx] 661

Sep 1996 The Gutenberg Webster's Unabridged Dictionary [AB] [pgwabxxx.xxx] 660

and here are 36 new listings since we reached #1900 last month.

One from November already: Nov 1999 Scaramouche, by Rafael Sabatini[Rafael Sabatini#2][scmshxxx.xxx]1947

and

Oct 1999 The Second Jungle Book, by Rudyard Kipling [RK #6] [2jngbxxx.xxx]1937

Oct 1999 Letters from England, by Elizabeth Davis Bancroft [ltengxxx.xxx]1936

Oct 1999 Adventures of Major Gahagan, by Thackaray[W.M.T.8] [majghxxx.xxx]1935

Oct 1999 Songs of Innocence and Experience, by Wm. Blake[2] [sinexxxx.xxx]1934

Oct 1999 The Great Hoggarty Diamond, by Thackeray [W.M.T.7] [gthgdxxx.xxx]1933

Oct 1999 Early Kings of Norway, by Thomas Carlyle [T.C. #6] [knrwyxxx.xxx]1932

Oct 1999 The Zeppelin's Passenger, by E. Phillips Oppenheim[zplnpxxx.xxx]1931

Oct 1999 Penguin Island, by Anatole France [pngwnxxx.xxx]1930

Oct 1999 School For Scandal, by Richard Brinsley Sheridan [scndlxxx.xxx]1929

Oct 1999 Elinor Wyllys, by Susan Fenimore Cooper[Volume 2] [1wyllxxx.xxx]1928

Oct 1999 Elinor Wyllys, by Susan Fenimore Cooper[Volume 1] [1wyllxxx.xxx]1927

Oct 1999 Elinor Wyllys, by Amabel Penfeather [Volume 2] [2wyllxxx.xxx]1928

Oct 1999 Elinor Wyllys, by Amabel Penfeather [Volume 1] [1wyllxxx.xxx]1927

Oct 1999 Grandfather's Chair, by Nathaniel Hawthorne[NH #8] [gfchrxxx.xxx]1926

Oct 1999 Droll Stories [V. 1], by Honore de Balzac[HdB #82] [1drllxxx.xxx]1925

Oct 1999 Many Voices, by E. Nesbit [Poems] [E. Nesbit #8] [mnyvcxxx.xxx]1924

Oct 1999 The Poisoned Pen by, Arthur B. Reeve [tppenxxx.xxx]1923

Oct 1999 Deirdre of the Sorrows, by J. M. Synge [Synge #7] [drdrexxx.xxx]1922

[This one is a play, and is in markup format, need a volunteer to unmark it.]
Oct 1999 The Chouans, by Honore de Balzac [de Balzac #81] [chounxxx.xxx]1921

Oct 1999 Billy Baxter's Letters, By William J. Kountz, Jr. [bbxtlxxx.xxx]1920

Oct 1999 Ballads, by Horatio Alger, Jr. [H. Alger Jr. #10][blldsxxx.xxx]1919

Oct 1999 Long Odds, by H. Rider Haggard [H. R. Haggard #8] [loddsxxx.xxx]1918

Oct 1999 The Queen of Hearts, by Wilkie Collins[Collins#21] [qnhrtxxx.xxx]1917

Oct 1999 The Great Stone Face, et. al. Nathaniel Hawthorne [totwmxxx.xxx]1916

Includes The Great Stone Face and other Tales from the White Mountains> > > Oct 1999 Sketches From Memory, by Nathaniel Hawthorne [#7] [totwmxxx.xxx]1916

Oct 1999 The Great Carbuncle, by Nathaniel Hawthorne [#6] [totwmxxx.xxx]1916

Oct 1999 The Ambitious Guest, by Nathaniel Hawthorne [#5] [totwmxxx.xxx]1916

Oct 1999 The Great Stone Face, by Nathaniel Hawthorne [#4] [totwmxxx.xxx]1916

Oct 1999 Second Thoughts of An Idle Fellow, by Jerome [#14] [scthkxxx.xxx]1915

Oct 1999 [Reserved for The Titanic [xxx.xxx]1914* Oct 1999 The Drums Of Jeopardy, by Harold MacGrath [jprdyxxx.xxx]1913

Oct 1999 The Muse of the Department, by de Balzac [HdB #80] [msdptxxx.xxx]1912

Oct 1999 Concerning Christian Liberty, by Martin Luther[#6] [clbtyxxx.xxx]1911

Mon Year Title and Author [filename.ext]####

Sep 1999 [Reserved for La Tulipe Noire] [xxx.xxx]1910

Sep 1999 [Reserved for Darwin] [xxx.xxx]1909

Sep 1999 Her Prairie Knight, by B. M. Bower[B.M. Bower #10] [hrprkxxx.xxx]1908

Sep 1999 Rowdy of the Cross L, by B. M. Bower [BM Bower #9] [rowdyxxx.xxx]1907

Sep 1999 Erewhon (Revised Edition), by Samuel Butler [erwhnxxx.xxx]1906

Sep 1999 The Governess [Female Academy], by Sarah Fielding [gvrnsxxx.xxx]1905

Sep 1999 Life & Perambulations of a Mouse by Dorothy Kilner[lpoamxxx.xxx]1904

Sep 1999 Everybody's Guide to Money Matters, by Wm. Cotton [egtmmxxx.xxx]1903

Sep 1999 The Old Peabody Pew by Kate Douglas Wiggin[KDW#13] [oldpwxxx.xxx]1902

Sep 1999 Secret of the Woods, by William J. Long [sctwdxxx.xxx]1901

Sep 1999 Typee, by Herman Melville [Herman Melville #2] [typeexxx.xxx]1900

Mac users can download our .txt files in binary mode to avoid the double spacing cr/lf line ends creates. Or download the .zip files, which unzip properly for nearly any operating system they are unzipped for…

From Edupage:

AND VIEWERS FIGHT BACK AGAINST WEB AD OVERLOAD Meanwhile, Web surfers weary of enduring the "pulsating, candy-colored wave of advertising that has spread across the Internet," increasingly are turning to ad-blocking software to speed up their download times. "They are a symbol of people saying, 'I'm not going to take it anymore,'" says Jakob Nielsen, co-founder of the Nielsen-Norman Group. The ad blockers, which automatically eliminate all advertising from Web pages, go by names like WebWasher, InterMute and AtGuard. Many online advertisers dismiss the trend toward ad-blocking, noting that when faster connections are available, consumers will not be so annoyed about being forced to download cumbersome advertisement files. "Consumers understand the basic proposition that all the

free things are enabled by advertising," says the chairman of the Internet Advertising Bureau. "Advertising is transforming the business model." (Los Angeles Times 2 Mar 99)

OPEN UNIVERSITY OFFERS FIRST ONLINE COURSE Britain's Open University, one of the oldest distance education institutions in existence, this week launched its first online course – "You, Your Computer and the Net." The course, which is designed for students with little or no technical knowledge, has attracted 2,000 students, with one senior O.U. lecturer calling the response "overwhelming." Participants will use a dedicated Web site and will have e-mail access to individual tutors. The O.U. says the new course is aimed at those "who feel apprehensive about the apparently inexorable march of the new communications technologies." (Financial Times 1 Mar 99)

PREPARE FOR Y2K THE WAY YOU'D PREPARE FOR A THREE-DAY BLOW Senator Chris Dodd's advice for getting ready for Y2K is: "What you ought to do is prepare for a good storm, a hurricane, a storm where you'd like two or three days of water and canned goods and the like," but you shouldn't withdraw your money from banks. A study conducted by Dodd and Senator Robert Bennett has concluded that there will be no major problems with regard to the airways, nuclear weapons, or the nation's power grids. (AP 1 Mar 99)

HALF OF U.S. CLASSROOMS ARE NOW WIRED The Department of Education says that, largely thanks to government subsidies, 51% of classrooms, school computer and science labs, and school libraries had Internet connections in the Fall of 1998 (compared to 27% in 1997 and only 3% in 1994). Smaller and poorer schools are now just as likely to have Internet connections as larger and wealthier schools. (Reuters/San Jose Mercury News 1 Mar 99)

Edupage … is what you've just finished reading excerpts of– to subscribe to Edupage: send mail to: listproc@educom.unc.edu with the message: subscribe edupage Susan B. Anthony (if your name is Susan B. Anthony; otherwise use your own name To unsubscribe send a message to: listproc@educom.unc.edu with the message: unsubscribe edupage. If you have problems, send email to manager@educom.unc.edu.) "I love Edupage." mh Edupage is written by John Gehl (gehl@educom.edu), and Suzanne Douglas (douglas@educom.edu). USA Telephone: 770-590-1017

http://www.educom.edu/web/pubs/pubHomeFrame.html

Edupage is supported by Educom

300 days to the new Millennium, and still public estimates of the costs have not yet reached the $1 Trillion mark I predicted when the Y2K bugs were first announced. . .but I still predict at least that much cost.

About the Project Gutenberg Newsletter: [Goes out approximately first Wednesday of each month. But different relays will get it to you at different times; you can subscribe directly, just send me email to find out how, or surf to promo.net/pg to subscribe directly by yourself.]

APRIL 1999

This is the Project Gutenberg Newsletter, for Wednesday, April 7, 1999

Etexts Readable By Both Humans and Computers Since Before The Internet [Usually sent the first Wednesday of each month, delayed if by relay.] Main URL is promo.net Webmaster is Pietro di Miceli, of Rome, Italy

This month we have Etexts in English, French and Japanese as well as a few translations into English from the French, German and Greek. I am hopeful we can continue even more in a wide variety of languages.

Several new Project Gutenberg sites listed below and more than a whole month's worth of new Etexts. . .we finished all of November in March– so we are 8 months ahead of schedule, instead of our usual 1 month. I hope we can finish all the December Etexts in the next 28 days. . . .

Lots of things in this Newsletter, not the least of which is that this month the Newsletter goes out on the last possible day since the first Wednesday is April 7th, which will gave us a very long month to get up to completing the November Etexts, but will leave us with less time to do the December Etexts, a time that is already overloaded with these:

1. Every April and October we request new volunteers, before everyone leaves for the summer, and when they are firmly back in the fall.

2. This year we are creating a support system for new our volunteers, which will be thoroughly tested this month. This is a BIG project and will take some effort to complete. If you would be willing to help some of our new volunteers get started, please let me know. [more below on this, probably the most important thing right now]

3. We are releasing our first Etext without ASCII characters, and the hopes are we will be able to interest many of you in looking at an Etext of Rashomon, in Japanese, as well as in translation. So far the translation is not yet complete, but we are working on it. In Japanese, it is the first file

in the list below.

4. We are gearing up for our first official public relations effort– if you can help us get some extra media coverage for Etext #2000– that would be GREATLY APPRECIATED. . .now is the time to start and we will continue right through the official release date of #2000.

5. We will probably have to get incorporated in the year 2000, so the lawyers who can help us with that will also be very appreciated.

6. The Visually Impaired Team of Project Gutenberg Volunteers: Jay Mendham jmendham@interlog.com, temporary Team Leader. This is a team of visually impaired volunteers who create a set of general Etexts for the Project Gutenberg audience.

7. The next Project Gutenberg message you are likely to receive will be a request for volunteers and donations. . .if you do not want to read it, feel free to just delete it. . . . The Volunteers' List will receive one more message beforehand.

From: webmaster@promo.net [Pietro di Miceli] There is a new PG Volunteers' Board available at: http://promo.net/pg/vol/wwwboard/ Please use and peruse it and send me any suggestions, corrections, etc. Also see: http://promo.net/pg/volunteer.html

1. We are still VERY interested in doing more languages, if you can do even ONE Etext, however short, in various languages– this would be more appreciated than you can imagine.

Requests:

For May 16, 1999 [Please forward this to Balzac interests. . . .]

In honor of the bicentennial of the birth of Honore de Balzac (1799 - - 1850) Project Gutenberg is proud to present English translations of the entire "Human Comedy." Portraying over two thousand characters and with immense attention to detail, this massive collection of just under one hundred novels and shorter works brings to life the social history of France during the first half of the 19th century.

Team Balzac is seeking a qualifying biography of Honore de Balzac and any non-Human Comedy works. Except for The Human Comedy and Droll Tales we have been unable to locate any qualifying editions. If anyone is able to assist, please email Dagny at dagnyj@hotmail.com

•

From: Michael Pullen globaltraveler5565@yahoo.com

Request for assistance/information: Gothic German typeface

I use a scanner to enter raw manuscript material and a software package for interpreting into e-text. While the software (Visioneer ProOCR 100) offers a decent German dictionary for spell checking, it does not recognize the old German scripts called Fraktur. This moderately ornate and stylized font has gone out of style since 1945, but many of the older German originals are available ONLY in this mode. Examples of this style can be viewed on the Internet at the web site http://www.waldenfont.com/gutenberg2 and many others (use the word fraktur with your favorite web search engine).

Do you know of, or can suggest, any means of scanning/parsing this older typeface? If you have any information, please contact the Gutenberg Project office or myself (globaltraveler5565@yahoo.com). Your assistance will be greatly appreciated in accelerating several projects.

-

If you can get a pre-1923 copy of Swiss Family Robinson, AnneWing@aol.com would either like to borrow it or have you do some proofing of an Etext she has. . .thanks. mh

-

I have my own personal request. . .someone good with FTP to help me post books when I am away from my desk. mh

-

Don Quixote If anyone is a student at Boston University, their library system has a 1910-1913 and a 1922-1923 edition which apparently are circulating, so that would be even better.

-

We need a copy of this because we made an Etext, then lost contact with the person we sent it to. Actually we don't really need to HAVE the copy, if you are willing to do some proofreading. The Jewel of Seven Stars, by Bram Stoker Please contact [and cc: hart@pobox.com]: Aaron Cannon cannona@fireantproductions.com

1Notess:

You probably already know about this, but I have found Ebay to be a good source of books older than 1921. I did a search in the book category for 1921 (in titles and descriptions) and found quite a number of books with a copyright of 1921 (some even with a scan of the copyright page) So you might suggest to volunteers looking for a cheap book to contribute to look at http://www.ebay.com

•

About our Webster's Unabridged Dictionary

Some people thought the filenames would be

pgws05*.txt and .zip

however. . .in this case the volunteer added an extra 0, I know not why, and the location of the number part changed, so the files you want are:

pgw050xz.txt pgw050tw.txt pgw050s.txt pgw050r.txt pgw050pq.txt pgw050mo.txt pgw050il.txt pgw050fh.txt pgw050de.txt pgw050c.txt pgw050ab.txt and readme.web

Sorry for the confusion, will add to next newsletter. . . .

Newer versions just add one. . .next will be 060. . . .

But most start with versions 10, 11, 12, etc. Only those we know will be "in progress" for some time before they are up to our standard, but are too important not to post immediately get numbers lower than 10, as an indicator of "not yet ready for prime time."

Here is a list of our newest sites:

California Lutheran University centrigma.dhs.org/pg or, if a problem, use: 199.107.218.247/pg David Linstad dlinsta@ROBLES.CALLUTHERAN.EDU

•

Mexico Universidad Jesuita (Instituto Tecnolsgico y de Estudios Superiores de Occidente at Guadalajara) ftp://ftp.iteso.mx/pub/etext/

•

From Webmaster Sergey V. Malina Center Informika, Ministry of Education of Russia New URL for Project Gutenberg at Ministry of Education / www.informika.ru/text/books/gutenb/

•

DataCanyon Enterprises of Tucson, Arizona ftp://ftp.datacanyon.com/pub/gutenberg/ and http://www.datacanyon.com/mirrors/gutenberg/ The server is a dual processor Sparc 20, 512 megs RAM, 150GB+ disk, sitting on two fractional DS3's totaling 16 megabit of full-duplex bandwidth.

•

ftp://ftp.is.co.za/text/project-gutenburg/ Johannesburg, Gauteng, South Africa This site is FTP only, which most new browsers can handle. If you need help working with this particular site, email: 'The Internet Solution FTP admin' (ftp-admin@is.co.za)

- Austria gd.tuwien.ac.at/soc/gutenberg/

•

A list of our sites can be accessed at promo.net

And here, finally, is our list of some 45+ new Etexts:

Mon Year Title and Author [filename.ext]#### *****A "C" Following a Project Gutenberg Etext Number Indicates Copyright****

Nov 1999 Rashomon, by Akutagawa Ryunosuke [in Japanese] [rshmnxxx.xxx]1982

Nov 1999 The Right to Read, by Richard M. Stallman [of GNU] [tychoxxx.xxx]1981C This Etext is available as tycho10.txt or .zip and tycho10h.htm or .zip files and in French HTML as tycho10f.htm and tycho10f.zip

Nov 1999 Stories by English Authors in Africa, Scribners Ed[sbeaaxxx.xxx]1980

Contains: The Mystery of Sasassa Valley by A. Conan Doyle Long Odds, by H. Rider Haggard King Memba's Point, by J. Landers Ghamba, by W. C. Scully Mary Musgrave, Anonymous Gregorio, by Percy Hemingway

Nov 1999 The Perdue Chicken Cookbook, by Mitzi Perdue [mitzixxx.xxx]1979C

Nov 1999 Buttercup Gold, et. al., by Ellen Robena Field [btrcpxxx.xxx]1978

Nov 1999 Phaedra, by Jean Baptiste Racine, RB Boswell, Tr.

[phrdrxxx.xxx]1977

Nov 1999 Peter Ruff and the Double Four, by Oppenheim[EPO8]
[rff44xxx.xxx]1976

Nov 1999 The Legacy of Cain, by Wilkie Collins [Collins#22]
[lcainxxx.xxx]1975

Nov 1999 Poetics, by Aristotle, Tr. SH Butcher[Aristotle#1]
[poetcxxx.xxx]1974

Nov 1999 Tales of Troy, by Andrew Lang [Andrew Lang #17]
[tltryxxx.xxx]1973

Nov 1999 History Of The Britons, by Nennius [brtnsxxx.xxx]1972

Nov 1999 Erewhon Revisited, by Samuel Butler [S. Butler #2]
[ervstxxx.xxx]1971

Nov 1999 A Poor Wise Man, by Mary Roberts Rinehart[MRR #12]
[pwsmnxxx.xxx]1970

Nov 1999 Catherine: A Story, by William Thackeray[W.M.T.#9]
[cthrnxxx.xxx]1969

Nov 1999 The Human Comedy: Introductions and Appendix[#91]
[hciaaxxx.xxx]1968

Nov 1999 The Brotherhood of Consolation, by Balzac[HdB #90]
[brcnsxxx.xxx]1967

Nov 1999 The Path of the King, by John Buchan [Buchan #6]
[tpotkxxx.xxx]1966

Nov 1999 Captain Blood, by Rafael Sabatini [R. Sabatini #3]
[cpbldxxx.xxx]1965

Nov 1999 [Reserved for Pietro di Miceli, PG Webmaster] [xxx.xxx]1964

Nov 1999 The Confession, by Mary Roberts Rinehart [MRR #11]
[cnfsnxxx.xxx]1963

Nov 1999 A Defence of Poesie and Poems, by Philip Sidney
[dfncpxxx.xxx]1962

Nov 1999 Books and Bookmen, by Andrew Lang[Andrew Lang #16]

[bkbkmxxx.xxx]1961

Nov 1999 Sight Unseen, by Mary Roberts Rinehart[Rinehart10] [stnsnxxx.xxx]1960

Nov 1999 The Crown of Thorns, by E. H. Chapin [thrnsxxx.xxx]1959

Nov 1999 Hermann and Dorothea by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe[handdxxx.xxx]1958

Nov 1999 Beatrix, by Honore de Balzac[Honore de Balzac #89] [btrixxxx.xxx]1957

Nov 1999 And Even Now, by Max Beerbohm [Max Beerbohm #7] [evnowxxx.xxx]1956

Nov 1999 The Darrow Enigma, by Melvin L. Severy [dngmaxxx.xxx]1955

Nov 1999 Colonel Chabert, by Honore de Balzac[de Balzac#88] [chbrtxxx.xxx]1954

Nov 1999 The Diary of an Old Soul, by George MacDonald [#6] [doaosxxx.xxx]1953

Nov 1999 The Yellow Wallpaper, by Charlotte Perkins Gilman2[ylwlpxxx.xxx]1952

Nov 1999 The Coming Race, by Edward Bulwer Lytton[Lytton#5] [cmgrcxxx.xxx]1951

Nov 1999 A Woman of Thirty, by Honore de Balzac[Balzac #87] [thrtyxxx.xxx]1950

Nov 1999 On The Ruin of Britain, by Gildas Sapiens [otrobxxx.xxx]1949

Nov 1999 The Story of a Bad Boy, by Thomas Bailey Aldrich 7[soabbxxx.xxx]1948

Nov 1999 Scaramouche, by Rafael Sabatini[Rafael Sabatini#2] [scmshxxx.xxx]1947

Oct 1999 On War, by Carl von Clausewitz [Volume 1] [CvC #1] [1onwrxxx.xxx]1946

Oct 1999 Egmont, by Johann Wolfgang Von Goethe [Goethe #2] [egmntxxx.xxx]1945

Oct 1999 The Witch, et. al, by Anton Chekhov[Chekhov#14-28] [witchxxx.xxx]1944

The stories contained in addition are: 28 THE WITCH 27 PEASANT WIVES 26 THE POST 25 THE NEW VILLA 24 DREAMS 23 THE PIPE 22 AGAFYA 21 AT CHRISTMAS TIME 20 GUSEV 19 THE STUDENT 18 IN THE RAVINE 17 THE HUNTSMAN 16 HAPPINESS 15 A MALEFACTOR 14 PEASANTS

Oct 1999 Louis Lambert, by Honore de Balzac [de Balzac #86] [lmbrtxxx.xxx]1943

Oct 1999 Rise and Fall of Cesar Birotteau, by Balzac[HdB85] [rfbrtxxx.xxx]1942

Oct 1999 Letters of Two Brides, by Honore de Balzac[HdB#84] [l2brdxxx.xxx]1941

Oct 1999 Christ in Flanders, by Honore de Balzac[Balzac#83] [flndrxxx.xxx]1940

Oct 1999 A Gentleman of France, by Stanley Weyman[Weyman#2] [gntfrxxx.xxx]1939

Oct 1999 Resurrection, by Leo Tolstoy [Leo Tolstoi] [LT #6] [resurxxx.xxx]1938

and two from December, leaving us 34 more to do in the next 28 days. . . .

Dec 1999 Origin of Species, 6th Ed., by Charles Darwin [#5] [otoos610.xxx]2009

Dec 1999 Monsieur Beaucaire, by Booth Tarkington [BT #8] [mbeauxxx.xxx]1983

Mac users can download our .txt files in binary mode to avoid the double spacing cr/lf line ends creates. Or download the .zip files, which unzip properly for nearly any operating system they are unzipped for…

About the Project Gutenberg Newsletter: [Goes out approximately first Wednesday of each month. But different relays will get it to you at different times; you can subscribe directly, just send me email to find out how, or surf to promo.net/pg to subscribe directly by yourself.]

Not Just Intel and the Pentium III

From Edupage:

MICROSOFT RESPONDS TO PRIVACY ISSUE Reacting to a controversy started when a programmer in Brookline, Mass., discovered Windows 98 generates a unique serial number that is implanted in every electronic document and that can be used to trace the identity of its author, Microsoft said it will create a software tool to allow customers to remove the number, which was created to help support specialists diagnose problems for customers who call with questions. Jason Catlett, who lobbies on privacy issues, says, “This is going to be a cleanup job larger than the Exxon Valdez oil spill. There are billions of tattooed documents out there.” (AP 8 Mar 99)

IBM ACTION ENCOURAGES WEB SITES TO POST CLEAR PRIVACY POLICIES IBM, which is the second-biggest advertiser on the Internet, has decided to refrain from advertising on any Web sites that do not post clear policies explaining to visitors of those sites such things as what information about them is being collected and how it will be used, sold, or otherwise disseminated for marketing purposes. IBM is the first large company to link advertising and privacy policy in this way. (Wall Street Journal 31 Mar 99)

Edupage … is what you’ve just finished reading excerpts of– to subscribe to Edupage: send mail to: listproc@educom.unc.edu with the message: subscribe edupage Susan B. Anthony (if your name is Susan B. Anthony; otherwise use your own name To unsubscribe send a message to: listproc@educom.unc.edu with the message: unsubscribe edupage. If you have problems, send email to manager@educom.unc.edu.) “I love Edupage.” mh

Edupage is supported by Educom

and from several of our people:

Some, if not most, VCR’s won’t be able to use the programmed advanced recording feature. Do not throw away your VCR in the year 2000. Set the year on 1972 because the calendar days of the week and month will be the same as the year 2000. Please pass this on because it is very unlikely the manufacturers will not share this information. They may want you to buy a new one that is Y2K compliant.

Next month, Etext #2000. . .I hope!!!

You can subscribe or unsubscribe by yourself to the listservers we have running. . .if you are trying to unsubscribe, please be aware that MANY different listservers relay the newsletters from Project Gutenberg and Ask Dr. Internet, and that it is quite likely you do not receive our newsletters directly from our listservers. In any case of that nature, you would have to deal with the listserver in question, presuming you still wanted to unsubscribe in that case.

There are TWO Project Gutenberg Lists. . .volunteers will also want to subscribe to the “gutvol-l” list AND the “gutnberg” list, simply by including a second line with “gutvol-l” in place of “gutnberg.” [That is an “-L” after “gutvol” for the Volunteer’s Listserver.]

To SUBSCRIBE to the Project Gutenberg mailing list, “gutnberg” please send an email message to: listproc@listserv.oit.unc.edu

The subject line of the message will be ignored. The body of the message should contain the text:

subscribe gutnberg Your True Name

So, if your name were Dudley P. Duck, your message would contain:

subscribe gutnberg Dudley P. Duck

You do not need to include your email address, because Listprocessor gets it from the header of your email message.

Beware that the address must be “listproc@listserv.oit.unc.edu” You can’t address your message to an address like “listserv” or “listprocessor” or “majordom”

To UNSUBSCRIBE, just send this message to “listproc@listserv.oit.unc.edu”

unsubscribe gutnberg

If you are having trouble with the list, send a message to “owner-gutnberg@listserv.oit.unc.edu” and your message will be routed to the person who manages the list.

Thanks!!

Michael S. Hart [hart@pobox.com] Project Gutenberg Executive Director Internet User ~#100

MAY 1999

This is the Project Gutenberg Newsletter for Wednesday, May 5, 1999* Etexts Readable By Both Humans and Computers Since Before The Internet [Usually sent the first Wednesday of each month, delayed if by relay.] Main URL is promo.net Webmaster is Pietro di Miceli, of Rome, Italy

Well, we managed to finish the 1999 Etexts 8 months ahead of schedule, though it has been a struggle to do 36 Etexts each month of 1999 after doing

72 a month for the last half of 1998. This is somewhat replying to those who have asked why don't we make a more difficult schedule in the year 2000. . .right now there is no way we could be doing more for each month than we are. . .we are barely getting the 36 Etexts done in time for the Newsletter each month, which often gives us a few days of extra time, which we are glad to take advantage of.

We hope you will take the opportunity to volunteer to do your favorite book[s] from before 1923, and to look over our new volunteers' site at promo.net, which should make volunteering much more effortless. Also, you can email me and the other Project Gutenberg Directors listed. . .

Announcement

May 16, 1799

In honor of the bicentennial of the birth of Honore de Balzac (1799 - - 1850) Project Gutenberg is proud to present English translations of the entire "Human Comedy." Portraying over two thousand characters and with immense attention to detail, this massive collection of just under one hundred novels and shorter works brings to life the social history of France during the first half of the 19th century.

Team Balzac is seeking a qualifying biography of Honore de Balzac and any non-Human Comedy works. Except for The Human Comedy and Droll Tales we have been unable to locate any qualifying editions. If anyone is able to assist, please email Dagny at dagnyj@hotmail.com

Requests

We have had many requests for Henrik Ibsen, and done the copyright research for several editions, but we have never completed any. . .anyone interested??

Apr 1998 Spoon River Anthology, by Edgar Lee Masters [sprvrxxx.xxx]1280

New version, sprvr11.txt and .zip, many corrections

New index of Project Gutenberg Etexts in Australia All Etexts to date available, give them a shout… www.library.adelaide.edu.au/catalogs/adelaide.html

The University of Adelaide Library, which hosts a mirror of Project Gutenberg, has added entries to all Etexts to its online Catalogue. The Catalogue may be accessed by Telnet or through the Web … details are at

http://www.library.adelaide.edu.au/catalogs/adelaide.html The Web catalogue (WebPAC) allows the user to download etexts with a mouse click. Using a keyword search, one can easily find Etexts by including “Gutenberg” as a key word.

- New Project Gutenberg site under construction in Germany. . .please test for the next week, then let me know of anything still not going. ftp://ftp.pandemonium.de/mirrors/gutenberg/ http://www.pandemonium.de/gutenberg/

We are interested in finding out if there are people at the University of Texas at Austin and the Harry Ransom Center who are currently involved in the Gutenberg Project, or thinking of making a contribution to it. Our specific interest would be in French and Italian texts and public domain English translations of these texts. To discuss possibilities, please email me at: Philippe Dambournet – c/o ssalade@jump.net”

> You probably already know about this, but I have found Ebay to be a good source of books older than 1921. . . .

Yes indeed, but for most books I think http://www.abebooks.com/ is a better bet. It’s certainly a lot simpler than all the auction nonsense, tho’ perhaps not as much fun. . . .

**** And here are the books to finish out the year 1999, and start 2000 *****

Mon Year Title and Author [filename.ext]#### *****A “C” Following a Project Gutenberg Etext Number Indicates Copyright****

Dec 1999 The Library, by Andrew Lang [Andrew Lang #20] [lbrryxxx.xxx]2018

Dec 1999 The Dhammapada, Translated by F. Max Muller [dhmpdxxx.xxx]2017

Dec 1999 The 1998 CIA World Factbook[CIA Factbook #8][No#7] [world98x.xxx]2016

Dec 1999 A Miscellany of Men, by G. K. Chesterton [GKC #13] [miscyxxx.xxx]2015

Dec 1999 The Lodger, by Marie Belloc Lowndes [tldgrxxx.xxx]2014

Dec 1999 The Pit Prop Syndicate, by Freeman Wills Croft

[ptprpxxx.xxx]2013

Dec 1999 The Children, by Alice Meynell [Alice Meynell #8]
[chldnxxx.xxx]2012

Dec 1999 Rudder Grange, by Frank R. Stockton [Stockton #4]
[rgrngxxx.xxx]2011

Dec 1999 The Autobiography of Charles Darwin [Darwin #6]
[adrwnxxx.xxx]2010

Dec 1999 Origin of Species, 6th Ed., by Charles Darwin [#5]
[otoos610.xxx]2009

Dec 1999 Mazelli, and Other Poems, by George W. Sands[GS#1]
[mzllixxx.xxx]2008

Dec 1999 We Two, by Edna Lyall [wetwoxxx.xxx]2007

Dec 1999 A Fair Penitent, by Wilkie Collins [Collins #23][frpntxxx.xxx]2006

Dec 1999 Piccadilly Jim, by Pelham Grenville Wodehouse [#1]
[pccjmxxx.xxx]2005

Dec 1999 “Pigs is Pigs,” by Ellis Parker Butler [pgpgsxxx.xxx]2004

Dec 1999 Spirits in Bondage [Lyrics Cycle], by C. S. Lewis
[spbndxxx.xxx]2003

Dec 1999 Spirits in Bondage [Lyrics Cycle], Clive Hamilton
[spbndxxx.xxx]2003

Dec 1999 Sonnets from the Portuguese, by E. B. Browning[#1]
[snprgxxx.xxx]2002

Dec 1999 [Reserved for 2001, by Arthur C. Clarke] [xxx.xxx]2001

Dec 1999 Don Quijote, by Cervantes in Spanish .txt & .htm
[2donqxxx.xxx]2000

Dec 1999 Crome Yellow, by Aldous Huxley [Aldous Huxley #1]
[crmylxxx.xxx]1999

Dec 1999 Thus Spake Zarathustra, by Friedrich Nietzsche #1
[spzarxxx.xxx]1998

Dec 1999 Paradise, Divine Comedy, Dante, Tr. by Norton [3ddcnxxx.xxx]1997

Dec 1999 Purgatory, Divine Comedy, Dante, Tr. by Norton [2ddcnxxx.xxx]1996

Dec 1999 Hell/Inferno, Divine Comedy, Dante, Tr. by Norton [1ddcnxxx.xxx]1995

Dec 1999 Adventures among Books, by Andrew Lang [Lang #19] [advbkxxx.xxx]1994

Dec 1999 Told After Supper, by Jerome K. Jerome [JKJ #15] [tldspxxx.xxx]1993

Dec 1999 Fragmenta Regalia, by Robert Naunton [Published] [trvfgxxx.xxx]1992

Dec 1999 Travels in England, by Paul Hentzner [as 1 Book] [trvfgxxx.xxx]1992

Dec 1999 Old Friends, Epistolary Parody, by Andrew Lang[18] [oldfnxxx.xxx]1991

Dec 1999 The Bedford-Row Conspiracy, by Thackeray [WMT #11] [bdfrcxxx.xxx]1990

Dec 1999 The Foolish Dictionary, by Gideon Wurdz [fldctxxx.xxx]1989

Dec 1999 History of Tom Thumb, etc. Edited by Henry Altemus[thumbxxx.xxx]1988

Includes: The Stories of the Cat and the Mouse [and] Fire! Fire! Burn Stick!
Dec 1999 The Outlet, by Andy Adams [outltxxx.xxx]1987

Dec 1999 Life and Death of Mr. Badman, by John Bunyan[JB#3] [badmnxxx.xxx]1986

Dec 1999 Men's Wives, by William Makepeace Thackeray[WMT10] [mnwvsxxx.xxx]1985

Dec 1999 [Reserved: George Orwell's 1984/Did it come true?] [o1984xxx.xxx]1984

Dec 1999 Monsieur Beaucaire, by Booth Tarkington [BT #8] [mbeauxxx.xxx]1983

and

Jan 2000 Nostromo, by Joseph Conrad [Joseph Conrad #24] [nstrmxxx.xxx]2021

Jan 2000 Tarzan the Terrible, by Edgar R. Burroughs[TARZ#8] [tzntrxxx.xxx]2020

Jan 2000 The Bat, by M. R. Rinehart & Avery Hopwood [MRR13] [thbatxxx.xxx]2019

**

Mac users can download our .txt files in binary mode to avoid the double spacing cr/lf line ends creates. Or download the .zip files, which unzip properly for nearly any operating system they are unzipped for…

About the Project Gutenberg Newsletter: [Goes out approximately first Wednesday of each month. But different relays will get it to you at different times; you can subscribe directly, just send me email to find out how, or surf to promo.net/pg to subscribe directly by yourself.]

JUNE 1999

This is the Project Gutenberg Newsletter for Wednesday, June 2, 1999 Etexts Readable By Both Humans and Computers Since Before The Internet [Usually sent the first Wednesday of each month, delayed if by relay.] Main URL is promo.net Webmaster is Pietro di Miceli, of Rome, Italy

New and reposted files:

Jul 1998 Anna Karenina, by Leo Tolstoy/Tolstoi [Tolstoy #5] [nkrnnxxx.xxx]1399

This file was never completed, and should have been released as version 09 as it is now named, and the completed file [now spellchecked] is version 10. We also hope to have a version 11 with an even more thorough proofreading, soon.

-

Apr 1999 The Survivors of the Chancellor, by Jules Verne #8[tsotcxxa.xxx]1698

This is from a different source than our previous edition [tsotcxxx.xxx]1652

[My apologies, I thought I posted this a long time ago, but it never made it]

****Requests for Assistance from our Volunteers****

•

We need a pre-1923 edition of the Velveteen Rabbit, or one that SAYS in it that it is a reprint of one.

•

Below is a sample from a German play by Goethe, Iphigenie auf Taurus. This material in its entirety will be available shortly and will need a German-speaking proofreader. I am requesting a volunteer to take on the challenge and assist in the final phase of this project. Kindly contact me (globaltraveler5565@yahoo.com) if you can offer aid. Thanks! Mike Pullen

F|nfter Aufzug.

Erster Auftritt.

Thoas. Arkas.

Arkas. Verwirrt mu ich gestehn, da ich nicht wei, Wohin ich meinen Argwohn richten soll. Sind's die Gefangnen, die auf ihre Flucht Verstohlen sinnen? Ist's die Priesterin, Die ihnen hilft? Es mehrt sich das Ger|cht: Das Schiff, das diese beiden hergebracht, Sei irgend noch in einer Bucht versteckt. Und jenes Mannes Wahnsinn, diese Weihe, Der heil'ge Vorwand dieser Zvgrung, rufen Den Argwohn lauter und die Vorsicht auf.

Thoas. Es komme schnell die Priesterin herbei! Dann geht, durchsucht das Ufer scharf und schnell

****And here are our 36 Etexts for January, 2000, and a few for February****

Mon Year Title and Author [filename.ext]#### *****A "C" Following a Project Gutenberg Etext Number Indicates Copyright****

Jan 2000 Iphigenie auf Tauris, Johann von Goethe[#4] German[iphgnxxx.xxx]2054

This is labelled as version iphgn09.txt and .zip, as we need some practice.
Jan 2000 The American Republic, by O. A. Brownson [amrepxxx.xxx]2053

Jan 2000 Everybody's Business is Nobody's Business,

Defoe#8[ebdybxxx.xxx]2052

Jan 2000 Dickory Cronke, by Daniel Defoe [Daniel Defoe #7] [dckcrxxx.xxx]2051

Jan 2000 Old John Brown, by Walter Hawkins [ojbrnxxx.xxx]2050

Jan 2000 Liber Amoris, or, The New Pygmalion, by Wm Hazlitt[nwpygxxx.xxx]2049

Jan 2000 The Sketch-Book of Geoffrey Crayon by W. Irving #5[sbogcxxx.xxx]2048

Jan 2000 Stories of Modern French Novels: Scribners Ed. [sbmfaxxx.xxx]2047

This is part of Julian Hawthorne's Lock and Key Library Contains: Victor Cherbuliez Count Kostia

Paul Bourget Andre Cornelis

Anonymous The Last of the Costellos Lady Betty's Indiscretion

Jan 2000 Clotel; or, The President's Daughter, by Wm. Brown[clotlxxa.xxx]2046

Also see our previous release, based on a separate source edition: ^ Apr 1995 Clotelle; or The Colored Heroine by Wm Wells Brown[clotlxxx.xxx] 241 Jan 2000 My Memories of Eighty Years, by Chauncey M. Depew [depewxxx.xxx]2045

Jan 2000 The Education of Henry Adams, by Henry Adams [eduhaxxx.xxx]2044

Jan 2000 The Education of Henry Adams, by Henry Adams[HTML] [eduhaxxh.xxx]2044

Jan 2000 Stories by Modern American Authors: Scribners Ed. [sbmaaxxx.xxx]2043

This is part of Julian Hawthorne's Lock and Key Library Contains: F. MARION CRAWFORD By the Waters of Paradise

MARY E. WILKINS FREEMAN The Shadows on the Wall

MELVILLE D. POST The Corpus Delicti

AMBROSE BIERCE An Heiress from Redhorse The Man and the Snake

EDGAR ALLAN POE The Oblong Box The Gold-Bug

WASHINGTON IRVING Wolfert Webber, or Golden Dreams Adventure of the Black Fisherman

CHARLES BROCKDEN BROWN Wieland's Madness

FITZJAMES O'BRIEN The Golden Ingot My Wife's Tempter

NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE The Minister's Black Veil

ANONYMOUS Horror: A True Tale

Jan 2000 Something New, by P.G. Wodehouse [P.G.Wodehouse#2] [smtnwxxx.xxx]2042

Jan 2000 The House of the Wolf, by Stanley Weyman[Weyman#3] [hwolfxxx.xxx]2041

Jan 2000 Confessions of an English Opium-Eater, de Quincey [opiumxxx.xxx]2040

Jan 2000 Evangeline, by Henry W. Longfellow [Longfellow #6] [vnglnxxx.xxx]2039

Jan 2000 Evangeline, by Henry W. Longfellow [With Accents] [vnglnxxi.xxx]2039

Also see: Jun 1998 The Complete Poems of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow [cphwlxxx.xxx]1365

[A different version of Evangeline is in this collection] Jan 2000 Stories by Modern English Authors: Scribners Ed. [sbmeaxxx.xxx]2038

This is part of Julian Hawthorne's Lock and Key Library Contains: RUDYARD KIPLING (1865-) My Own True Ghost Story The Sending of Dana Da In the House of Suddhoo His Wedded Wife

A. CONAN DOYLE (1859-) A Case of Identity A Scandal in Bohemia The Red-Headed League

EGERTON CASTLE (1858-) The Baron's Quarry

STANLEY J. WEYMAN (1855-) The Fowl in the Pot

ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON (1850-94) The Pavilion on the Links

WILKIE COLLINS (1824-89) The Dream Woman

ANONYMOUS The Lost Duchess The Minor Canon The Pipe The Puzzle The Great Valdez Sapphire

Jan 2000 Journey Scotland's Western Isles, Saumeul Johnson [jwsctxxx.xxx]2038

[A Journey to the Western Isles of Scotland [Johnson #3]] Jan 2000 Novel 1Notess, by Jerome K. Jerome[JeromeKJerome#19][nvlntxxx.xxx]2037

Jan 2000 Eight Years' Wanderings in Ceylon, by Samuel Baker[8yearxxx.xxx]2036

Jan 2000 Stories by English Authors: Orient, Scribners Ed. [sbeaoxxx.xxx]2035

Contains: The Man Who Would Be King, Rudyard Kipling Tajima, Miss Mitford A Chinces Girl Graduate, R. K. Douglas The Revenge of Her Race, Mary Beaumont King Billy of Ballarat, Morley Roberts Thy Heart's Desire, Netta Syrett

Jan 2000 Waverley, by Walter Scott [Walter Scott #10][wvrlyxxx.xxx]2034

Jan 2000 The Unknown Guest, by Maurice Maeterlinck [ungstxxx.xxx]2033

Jan 2000 Martin Pippin in the Apple Orchard/Eleanor Farjeon[mpnaoxxx.xxx]2032

Jan 2000 Lock and Key Library, Magic & Real Detectives [#2] [2lckyxxx.xxx]2031

This is part of Julian Hawthorne's Lock and Key Library Stories by several authors: P. H. WOODWARDˆM Adventures in the Secret Service of the Post-Office Department An Erring Shepherd An Aspirant for Congress The Fortune of Seth Savage A Wish Unexpectedly Gratified An Old Game Revived A Formidable Weapon

ANDREW LANG Saint-Germain the Deathless The Man in the Iron Mask The Legend The Valet's History The Valet's Master Original Papers in the Case of Roux De Marsilly

M. ROBERT-HOUDIN [After whom Harry Houdini named himself] A Conjurer's Confessions Self-Training "Second Sight" The Magician Who

Became an Ambassador Facing the Arab's Pistol

DAVID P. ABBOTT Fraudulent Spiritualism Unveiled A Doctor of the Occult How the Tricks Succeeded The Name of the Dead Mind Reading in Public Some Famous Exposures

HEREWARD CARRINGTON More Tricks of "Spiritualism"

"Matter through Matter" Deception Explained by the Science of Psychology

ANONYMOUS How Spirits Materialize

Jan 2000 Legends of Babylon and Egypt, by Leonard W. King [behebxxx.xxx]2030

[Etext 2030 contains extended ASCII characters and I did not name the file]
Jan 2000 Lahoma, by John Breckinridge Ellis [lahomxxx.xxx]2029

Jan 2000 The Yellow Claw, by Sax Rohmer [Sax Rohmer #5] [yclawxxx.xxx]2028

Jan 2000 Tartuffe, by Jean Baptiste Poquelin Moliere [#1] [trtffxxx.xxx]2027

Jan 2000 The Coming Conquest of England, by August Niemann [tccoexxx.xxx]2026

Jan 2000 My Lady Caprice, by Jeffrey Farnol [lcprcxxx.xxx]2025

Jan 2000 Diary of a Pilgrimage, by Jerome K. Jerome[JKJ#17] [dypgmxxx.xxx]2024

Jan 2000 Malvina of Brittany, by Jerome K. Jerome [JKJ #16] [mlvbtxxx.xxx]2023

Contains: Malvina of Brittany The Street of the Blank Wall His Evening Out The Lesson Sylvia of the Letters The Fawn Gloves

Jan 2000 Angling Sketches, by Andrew Lang [Andrew Lang #21] [angskxxx.xxx]2022

Jan 2000 Nostromo, by Joseph Conrad [Joseph Conrad #24] [nstrmxxx.xxx]2021

Jan 2000 Tarzan the Terrible, by Edgar R. Burroughs[TARZ#8] [tzntrxxx.xxx]2020

Jan 2000 The Bat, by M. R. Rinehart & Avery Hopwood [MRR13] [thbatxxx.xxx]2019

And a few for February, 2000

Feb 2000 All For Love, by John Dryden [John Dryden #1] [al4lvxxx.xxx]2062

Feb 2000 Not Ready Yet [xxx.xxx]2061

Feb 2000 Not Ready Yet [xxx.xxx]2060

Feb 2000 The Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come by John Fox Jr[lsokcxxx.xxx]2059

Feb 2000 Messer Marco Polo, by Brian Oswald Donn-Byrne [mpoloxxx.xxx]2058

Feb 2000 The Last of the Plainsmen, by Zane Grey [Grey #10] [plnsmxxx.xxx]2057

Feb 2000 Life of William Carey, by George Smith [wmcryxxx.xxx]2056

Feb 2000 Two Years Before the Mast, by Richard Henry Dana [2yb4mxxx.xxx]2055

And from Edupage, etc. [Now two Newsletters, I will create a new blurb for each of them. . .Michael]

PAPER GOES ELECTRIC Researchers at Xerox and at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology have recently developed electronic ink and electronic paper, which some analysts say may make traditional paper obsolete. Electronic paper is easier on the eyes than a computer screen because it has a higher contrast, and it can display millions of different images in the same space. For example, analysts say that a paper newspaper could easily fit onto electronic paper, and information could be changed every morning by deleting yesterday's news and downloading the current news with no loss of print quality. Some former MIT students have already created a company called E Ink, which has developed electronic ink and paper products and is testing the prototypes commercially. The company recently hung an electronic sign in a Boston department store, where the display is controlled by a computer from within the store's main office. These electronic posters can have text changed instantaneously. (New Scientist 05/15/99)

DISPUTES AND UNKNOWNS OF ELECTRONIC RIGHTS ROIL THE BOOK

INDUSTRY For all the hype surrounding electronic books, the fast-moving industry is having trouble convincing the slow-moving book industry to get on board. The Authors' Guild mailed warnings to its 7,500 members last month criticizing current e-book contracts as bad deals, saying the distribution fees for e-book manufacturers are payment schemes that would deny publishers and authors their rewards in the information age. Other literary guilds are also advising authors to stay away from e-book agreements unless they promise to revise the deals when e-books become more popular. The book industry says it wants to see the market grow, but wants the terms to be fair. Current e-book deals give authors a share of just 4 percent of the book's list price, compared to 15 percent for traditional book deals. (New York Times 05/10/99)

COURT SAYS TEMPS DESERVE EMPLOYEE BENEFITS A federal court of appeals has ruled that about 10,000 temporary workers at Microsoft are entitled to take part in the discounted stock-option plan the company offers to regular employees. Industry analyst Rob Enderle says, "This is a broad decision, and it applies to all businesses. If you've got a temp worker putting in 20-plus hours a week, you better start considering him or her like you would a part-time worker" – and provide employee benefits. The ruling indicated that a temporary worker can be considered a "common-law employee" if the person's work was controlled not by the placement agency but by the company for which the work was being done. Microsoft plans to appeal. (New York Times 14 May 99) http://www.nytimes.com/library/tech/99/05/biztech/articles/14soft.html

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT WANTS ISPs TO SPY The European Parliament last Friday passed the Lawful Interception of Communications council resolution on new technologies – known as Enfopol – which requires Internet service providers and telephone companies to provide law-enforcement agencies with full-time, real-time access to Internet transmissions, even those traversing along multiple networks. In addition, wireless communications providers are required to provide geographical location information on cell phone users, along with decoding of messages, if encryption is provided as part of the service. The European Internet Service Providers' Association has denounced the resolution. "Anyone who's got half a clue about the Internet can easily see the Enfopol proposals are unfeasible," says the chairman of U.K. ISP Linx. "The problem is it's a bunch of law-enforcement people who have cooked this up in a vacuum without public consultation." He also expressed concerns that the stringent requirements would prompt Internet users from other countries to route around Europe, damaging the European telecom industry's revenue. (TechWeb 14 May 99) http://www.techweb.com/wire/story/TWB19990513S0009

PRIVACY PROPOSAL A Clinton Administration proposal to protect individual financial and medical records includes a request for more than $5 million to fund an increase in online surveillance and to train law enforcement officials in ways to combat security fraud. Congressman Jay Inslee (D-Wash.) explained the problem to his colleagues by writing: “Do you believe your banking transaction experiences are private? You may be surprised to learn that with certain exceptions, financial institutions may legally share all of the information about you and your bank account activity with affiliated businesses or even third parties.” (Washington Post 4 May 99) http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/business/daily/may99/privacy4.htm

PC SALES UP, PROFITS DOWN Unit sales of PCs rose 21% in April, but revenue declined 2.2% as prices fell and sales of low-cost PCs surged. The average sales price of a PC was $928, according to PC Data Corp. Sales of sub-$1,000 computers accounted for 71% of all retail sales. (Bloomberg News/Los Angeles Times 20 May 99) http://www.latimes.com/home/business/t000045210.html

Test blurbs for the new ways these are reaching us:

These are excerpts from: NewsScan newsscan@newsscan.com www.newsscan.com/, and send us mail: John Gehl gehl@NewsScan.com and Suzanne Douglas douglas@NewsScan.com, or call 770-590-1017.

Edupage … is what you’ve just finished reading excerpts of– to subscribe to Edupage: send mail to: listproc@educom.unc.edu with the message: subscribe edupage Susan B. Anthony (if your name is Susan B. Anthony; otherwise use your own name To unsubscribe send a message to: listproc@educom.unc.edu with the message: unsubscribe edupage. If you have problems, send email to manager@educom.unc.edu.) “I love Edupage.” mh

Mac users can download our .txt files in binary mode to avoid the double spacing cr/lf line ends creates. Or download the .zip files, which unzip properly for nearly any operating system they are unzipped for…

About the Project Gutenberg Newsletter: [Goes out approximately first Wednesday of each month. But different relays will get it to you at different times; you can subscribe directly, just send me email to find out how, or surf to promo.net/pg to subscribe directly by yourself.]

•

You can subscribe or unsubscribe by yourself to the listservers we have running. . .if you are trying to unsubscribe, please be aware that MANY different listservers relay the newsletters from Project Gutenberg and Ask

Dr. Internet, and that it is quite likely you do not receive our newsletters directly from our listservers. In any case of that nature, you would have to deal with the listserver in question, presuming you still wanted to unsubscribe in that case.

There are now three Project Gutenberg Lists. . .volunteers are two of them, and the third is for announcments for the general public. Those of you who want the highest “signal to noise ratio, i.e. the fewest number of messages containing the most information may want to subscribe to the”gutvol-l” list AND the “gutnberg” lists; just by including a second line with “gutvol-l” in place of “gutnberg.” [That is an “-L” after “gutvol” for the Volunteer’s Listserver.]– In addition we have opened an “unmoderated list” called “gutvol-d” to which anyone may subscribe and post messages. . .we may have to limit subscriptions to actual volunteers if we start getting spam, but for now this will be a wide open list.

Rememmber: “gutnberg” = General Public Announcements “gutvol-l” = General Private Announcements “gutvol-d” = Free For All Discussion

To SUBSCRIBE to the Project Gutenberg mailing list, “gutnberg” please send an email message to: listproc@listserv.oit.unc.edu

The subject line of the message will be ignored. The body of the message should contain the text:

subscribe gutnberg Your True Name

and/or

subscribe gutvol-l Your True Name

and/or

subscribe gutvol-d Your True Name

So, if your name were Dudley P. Duck, your message would contain:

subscribe gutnberg Dudley P. Duck

You do not need to include your email address, because Listprocessor gets it from the header of your email message.

Beware that the address must be “listproc@listserv.oit.unc.edu” You can’t address your message to an address like “listserv” or “listprocessor” or “majordom”

To UNSUBSCRIBE, just send this message to “listproc@listserv.oit.unc.edu”

unsubscribe gutnberg

If you are having trouble with the list, send a message to “owner-gutnberg@listserv.oit.unc.edu” and your message will be routed to the person who manages the list.

Thanks!!

Michael S. Hart [hart@pobox.com] Project Gutenberg Executive Director Internet User ~#100

JULY 1999

This is the Project Gutenberg Newsletter for Wednesday, July 7, 1999 Etexts Readable By Both Humans and Computers Since Before The Internet [Usually sent the first Wednesday of each month, delayed if by relay.] Main URL is promo.net Webmaster is Pietro di Miceli, of Rome, Italy *Check out our Websites at promo.net, and ask me for our FTP servers.*

***This is Project Gutenberg’s 29th Fourth of July on the Internet!* Help us celebrate by keeping us alive as a continuing institution!**

We have about 50 Etext releases for you in this Newsletter!

With so many entering the Etext field this year, we are one endangered species I don’t think the world can do as well without. . .everyone is saying they can put a million Etexts online, but none of them actually have DONE even a thousand. . .they mostly just copy from others. . .as much as I *LIKE* having our files copied around the world. . .I do NOT want that to be our undoing. . .if you can help, please read below!!!!

There are nearly 50 new Etexts listed below, all but one produced by a volunteer corps at Project Gutenberg; you won’t find that kind of text production anywhere else, and we are now in our 29th year of doing it.

Etexts Readable By Both Humans and Computers Since Before The Internet [Usually sent the first Wednesday of each month, delayed if by relay.] Main URL is promo.net Webmaster is Pietro di Miceli, of Rome, Italy

Anniversary News Items:

1. More Languages [Japanese, Chinese, Swedish, Danish, DNA. . .more.]
2. The Human Genome Project [11% complete at 375 Megabytes]
3. We need help getting incorporated as a 501 (C) 3, need a lawyer. [We

had a volunteer lawyer, but lost email contact]
4. We need help getting major grants. . .grant writers needed!
5. We need help with Public Relations. . .I lost the address of our new PR person in the big crash, please email me again!
6. New site at: www.instinct.org/gutenberg/
7. New source for Project Gutenberg CDROMs.
8. We have a new German/Fraktur Team. . .and we need volunteers.
9. We still need help finished up Austen's Pride and Prejudice.

But First. . .Current Requests for Assistance From Our Volunteers:

1. We still need PERL writers, and I lost my list of them in the crash.

2. The 1999 CIA World Factbook should be completed just about now; if any of you can send me a copy, it would be greatly appreciated.

3. We may still need more proofers for Anna Karenina; will those currently working on it please contact me.

4. We have a copy of Martin Luther's publication of the Bible, in German fractur. . .and will need some serious help on it. . . . I would LIKE to think there is already an Etext of it available, if anyone can help us find it.

5. From: "Whiting, Jenifer" jenifer.whiting@PTSEM.EDU A request for the text "The Flying Inn" by G.K. Chesterton Most likely found in older editions in UK and Australia, but any edition that credits its content as originally from before 1923 will do just fine. Her copy was stolen, along with lots of other things, in a car break in. . .mh [I think we have a copy coming, but this was not confirmed]

6. I am working on a 4 volume collection of Samuel Adams' writings (H. A. Cushing, ed., 1904). The collection covers the years 1764-1802.

I would like to thank Richard Fane and Daniel Moore for all their work getting volume III done, and half of volume IV. We can still use several scanners and especially proofreaders in order to be able to do volumes I and II.

Even a few pages of proofreading would be helpful.

If you can help, please email me: Regina Azucena razucena@netway.com

1. The Human Genome Project: we are going to need volunteers to help us with this, unless we can find a way to FTP those 24 chromosomes directly

into our /etext00 directories. . .*these* files are large. . .more details below.

[Different Numbering System for Requests than other items]

1. Found an etext of The Golden Bowl by Henry James, http://www.newpaltz.edu/~hathaway/goldenbowl1.html If anyone can find a pre-1923 matching paper edition, then we can post it.

•

1. More Languages [Japanese, Chinese, Swedish, Danish, DNA. . .more.]

2. We would LOVE to post one file in a language we have not worked with before in each of the remaining months of 1999, and perhaps in 2000, if we can. No matter what format, we are willing to post it, but would also like to post in the simplest possible format as well . . .when this is possible. We may still need help with posting our Swedish and Danish Bibles. . .just to make sure we haven't mangled the files.

3. The Human Genome Project [11% complete at 375 Megabytes]

4. If you would like to join our Human Genome Project Team, please email Eliana Brown at one of the following, and cc:me Eliana Brown elianab68@yahoo.combrown12@students.uiuc.edu We need help getting them to prairienet.org, and perhaps with putting the headers on them. . .the files are large. . .and we don't have an easy internal way to get them there. . .thanks!

We have successfully downloaded our first chromosomes, and the smallest one we could, the Y chromosome, is 3.5 Megabytes. We have reserved 26 slots for June, 2000, for the 24 files and a few instructions and commentaries on how to read and use them. This will eventually total some 3.38 Gigabytes, so we could use some programming help to create a compression program that would take only 2 bits to store any of the GATC amino acids, and would unpack them for our readers. . .otherwise this one item will at least quadruple the size of Project Gutenberg. Zip is currently compressing at 70%, I have not tried the higher compression zip options yet. . . . However, even if we represented each character with two bits, it would be hard to get much beyond 75%, unless we used a particularly good algorithm. We tried one combination of our own plus zip and got 77%. . .not sure if worth the hassle.

1. We need help getting incorporated as a 501 (C) 3, need a lawyer. [We had a volunteer lawyer, but lost email contact]

This would probably be done in Illinois, and it is obvious we need to do this, or we won't get the donations required to do more than our original goal of

10,000 books. . .we are currently doing Etext at a rate that will reach 3,333 by the end of 2001. . .not bad for an unincorporated bunch of volunteers whose Executive Director has not had any paychecks for 6 months and probably won't for the next 6 months, and went through this same situation only two years ago.

1. We need help getting major grants. . .grant writers needed!

We will get our 10,000 Etexts done, whether we receive any funding of a major nature or not, but we could do 1,000,000 Etexts in just 20 more years, if we could get some 10 million dollar grants. The truth is that if we are going to spend time on other than Etext, I would prefer that we go all out in this direction.

1. We need help with Public Relations. . .I lost the address of our new PR person in the big crash, please email me again! We have an excellent opportunity to be the cover story on the Sunday Supplement of a very major newspaper, very shortly. We did the preliminary interview last weekend, and we should also prepare a press release for our 2,000th Etext, Human Genome, and our new language efforts. Which reminds me, we may still need help with Swedish and Danish.

2. You may want to try our new site at: www.instinct.org/gutenberg/

3. From Daniel Meyers: Here's what I'm ready to offer. The most up-to-date possible, full texts from Project Gutenberg on a two CD set for $39.95 (+ $5.00 S/H). Interested parties should send e-mail to gutenberg@monogames.com and they will be notified when and where they can order on-line.

Project Gutenberg will receive $34.95 of the above amount. Major credit cards and checks will be accepted.

1. We have a new German/Fraktur Team. . .and we need volunteers. Mike Pullen globaltraveler5565@yahoo.com German and Fraktur Team

2. We still need help finished up Austen's Pride and Prejudice. Please contact me if you can find any edition from before 1923.

This past, as in most months, we have made noticeable corrections to files:

Dec 1998 The Crystal Stopper, by Maurice LeBlanc [cstprxxx.xxx]1563

Dec 1998 Timaeus, by Plato, Benjamin Jowett, Translator #3 [tmeusxxx.xxx]1572

Feb 2000 Memoirs of the Comtesse du Barry by Lamothe-Langon[dbrryxxx.xxx]2082

Mar 1998 The Three Musketeers, by Alexandre Dumas [Pere #2] [1muskxxx.xxx]1257

Mar 1998 Twenty Years After, by Alexandre Dumas [Pere #4] [3muskxxx.xxx]1259

Jan 2000 Iphigenie auf Tauris, Johann von Goethe[#4] German[iphgnxxx.xxx]2054

Dec 1999 The Outlet, by Andy Adams [outltxxx.xxx]1987

Each of the above files has a version 11 now posted, our files get a higher # when we have made enough corrections to call it a revised edition. . .if your system supports FTP [File Transfer Protocol] you can find ALL our corrections by just searching for filename ?????11*., 12.*, 13,*, etc.

Here Are The New Etexts Presented On Our 28th Anniversary and Extras!!

Feb 2000 Tao Hua Yuan Ji, by Tao YuanMing [Chinese/English] [peachxxx.xxx]2090

Feb 2000 Peach Blossom Shangri-la, by Tao YuanMing [short] [peachxxx.xxx]2090

Feb 2000 The Reception of the Origin of Species, T H Huxley[oroosxxx.xxx]2089

Feb 2000 Life and Letters of Charles Darwin, Volume II [#8] [2llcdxxx.xxx]2088

2088 is Reserved for ^^^^^^^ Feb 2000 Life and Letters of Charles Darwin, Volume I [#7][1llcdxxx.xxx]2087

Feb 2000 The Slowcoach, by E. V. Lucas [slwchxxx.xxx]2086

mary starr marystarr@earthlink.net Feb 2000 Cyropaedia, by Xenophon [Transl. H. G. Dakyns] #14[cyrusxxx.xxx]2085

Feb 2000 The Way of All Flesh, by Samuel Butler [Butler#3] [wflshxxx.xxx]2084

Feb 2000 In Search of the Castaways, by Jules Verne [JV#11] [cstwyxxx.xxx]2083

^^^This version includes some markup, need volunteers to unmark to plain text

Feb 2000 Memoirs of the Comtesse du Barry by Lamothe-Langon[dbrryxxx.xxx]2082

by Baron Etienne Leon Lamothe-Langon, using a pseudonym***** Version 10 is the binary version with French accents. Version 11 is the Plain Vanilla ASCII version without accents.

Feb 2000 The Blithedale Romance, by Nathaniel Hawthorne[#7] [blthdxxx.xxx]2081

Feb 2000 Later Poems, by Alice Meynell[2 books/1 file][#10] [2almyxxx.xxx]2080

Feb 2000 Flower of the Mind, by Alice Meynell [Maynell #9] [2almyxxx.xxx]2080

Feb 2000 Memoirs of a Minister of France, by Stanley Weyman[moamfxxx.xxx]2079

From the Memoirs of a Minister of France, by Stanley Weyman [Weyman #4]

Feb 2000 Thais, by Anatole France, Trans. by Douglas [AF#2] [thaisxxx.xxx]2078

Feb 2000 The Nabob, by Alphonse Daudet Transl. W. Blaydes [nabobxxx.xxx]2077

Feb 2000 The Civilization of China, by Herbert A. Giles [cvchnxxx.xxx]2076

Feb 2000 Crotchet Castle, by Thomas Love Peacock[Peacock#2] [ccstlxxx.xxx]2075

Feb 2000 Civilization of Renaissance in Italy, J Burckhardt[coriixxx.xxx]2074

Feb 2000 The Valet's Tragedy et al, by Andrew Lang[Lang#22] [vlttrxxx.xxx]2073

Contains stories about The Man In The Iron Mask, etc. . . . Feb 2000 Michael, by E. F. Benson [mikelxxx.xxx]2072

Feb 2000 Stories by English Authors in Germany, Scribners [sbeagxxx.xxx]2071

Includes: The Bird On Its Journey, by Beatrice Harraden Koosje: A Study of Dutch Life, by John Strange Winter A Dog of Flanders, by Ouida Markheim, by Robert Louis Stevenson Queen Tita's Wager, by William Black

Feb 2000 To The Last Man, by Zane Grey [Zane Grey #12] [lstmnxxx.xxx]2070

Feb 2000 The Religion of Babylonia and Assyria, by Pinches [xrbaaxxx.xxx]2069

^^^^Available as both 7-bit version 7rbaa10.* and 8-bit version 8rbaa10.*^^^^
Feb 2000 Keziah Coffin, by Joseph C. Lincoln [kziacxxx.xxx]2068

Feb 2000 Beasts, Men and Gods, by F. Ossendowski [bmgdsxxx.xxx]2067

Feb 2000 Wildfire, by Zane Grey [Zane Grey #11][wldfrxxx.xxx]2066

Feb 2000 Dick Hamiliton's Airship, by Howard R. Garis [arshpxxx.xxx]2065

Feb 2000 Journey Scotland's Western Isles, Saumeul Johnson [jwsctxxx.xxx]2064

[A Journey to the Western Isles of Scotland [Johnson #3]] was listed as 2038

Feb 2000 The Trail of the White Mule, by B.M. Bower[BMB#11] [tttwmxxx.xxx]2063

Feb 2000 All For Love, by John Dryden [John Dryden #1] [al4lvxxx.xxx]2062

Feb 2000 Shorter Prose Pieces by Oscar Wilde[Oscar Wilde22] [wldspxxx.xxx]2061

Feb 2000 The History of Caliph Vathek, by William Beckford [cvthkxxx.xxx]2060

Feb 2000 The Little Shepherd of Kingdom Come by John Fox Jr[lsokcxxx.xxx]2059

Feb 2000 Messer Marco Polo, by Brian Oswald Donn-Byrne [mpoloxxx.xxx]2058

Feb 2000 The Last of the Plainsmen, by Zane Grey [Grey #10] [plnsmxxx.xxx]2057

Feb 2000 Life of William Carey, by George Smith [wmcryxxx.xxx]2056

Feb 2000 Two Years Before the Mast, by Richard Henry Dana [2yb4mxxx.xxx]2055

Extras From Future Collections We Will Be Posting In Coming Months

We have posted the following Chromosomes from the Human Genome Project Be advised, we have started with the smallest files, which will update the most often, but we will probably update only every few months. In our header is information on how to update the files yourself, if your interest requires the very latest information. WARNING!!! Totals 36M if you download both the .txt and .zip files of these 6 “small” files.

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Y Chromosome [#24] [0yhgpxxx.xxx]2224

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 10 [10hgpxxx.xxx]2210

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 09 [19hgpxxx.xxx]2209

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 08 [08hgpxxx.xxx]2208

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 03 [03hgpxxx.xxx]2203

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 02 [02hgpxxx.xxx]2202

[WARNING: These files are not complete, and have at least one error. . .that being in chromosome 2. . .a sequence of NNN’s around line 14975. . . .]

Mar 2000 Carlyle’s “History of Friedrich II of Prussia V 8 [08frdxxx.xxx]2108

Mar 2000 Carlyle’s “History of Friedrich II of Prussia V 7 [07frdxxx.xxx]2107

Mar 2000 Carlyle’s “History of Friedrich II of Prussia V 6 [06frdxxx.xxx]2106

Mar 2000 Carlyle’s “History of Friedrich II of Prussia V 5 [05frdxxx.xxx]2105

Mar 2000 Carlyle’s “History of Friedrich II of Prussia V 4 [04frdxxx.xxx]2104

Mar 2000 Carlyle’s “History of Friedrich II of Prussia V 3 [03frdxxx.xxx]2103

Mar 2000 Carlyle’s “History of Friedrich II of Prussia V 2 [02frdxxx.xxx]2102

Mar 2000 Carlyle's "History of Friedrich II of Prussia V 1 [01frdxxx.xxx]2101

Mar 2000 A Thief in the Night, by E. W. Hornung[Hornung #4] [thfntxxx.xxx]2098

Mar 2000 The Sign of the Four, by Arthur Conan Doyle [#16] [sign4xxx.xxx]2097

Mar 2000 A Smaller History of Greece, by William Smith [asmhgxxx.xxx]2096

Mar 2000 Clotelle: A Tale of the Southern States, by Brown [clotlxxb.xxx]2095

Jan 2000 Clotel; or, The President's Daughter, by Wm. Brown[clotlxxa.xxx]2046

Apr 1995 Clotelle; or The Colored Heroine by Wm Wells Brown[clotlxxx.xxx] 241 Also see our previous releases, based on a separate source editionsˆ

TO TURN ELECTRONIC PAPER INTO COMMERCIAL PRODUCT Though emphasizing "it won't be on the market in the next year," an executive of Xerox's Palo Alto Research Center says that Xerox and 3M have signed a manufacturing agreement intended to turn electronic paper into a commercial product, to be used in such applications as electronic newspapers capable of adding late-breaking news as you read them. Like a computer screen but not much thicker than ordinary paper and almost as flexible, electronic paper uses "gyricon" display technology developed at Xerox PARC about ten years ago. You'll (eventually) be able to write on it with a wand or stylus or to put it through a computer printer. (Reuters/San Jose Mercury News 29 Jun 99) http://www.sjmercury.com/svtech/news/breaking/merc/docs/065761.htm

"PC AS SIMPLE AS A TOASTER" - THE $199 iToaster A personal computer called the iToaster (because its developers say it's as simple to operate as a toaster) will use the BeOS operating system, rather than Microsoft's Windows. Priced at $199 (without a monitor) and manufactured by Microworkz.com in Seattle, the iToaster will offer word processing, home finance, and Web browsing software, and will have a graphical interface. The company is reportedly in talks with America Online about potential cross-marketing arrangements. (MSNBC 21 Jun 99, http://www.msnbc.com/news/282421.asp and USA Today 25 Jun 99 http://www.usatoday.com/life/cyber/tech/ctf470.htm)

THE FIGHT OVER INTERNET DOMAIN NAME REGISTRATION Those who

want to see the business of domain name registration opened up to competition will have to wait at least three weeks longer, as tensions build among the three major players in the discussion. Those players are: first, the Clinton Administration; second, Icann (Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers), the organization the Administration created to assume responsibility for Internet administration; and, third, Network Solutions Inc. (NSI), the private company which since 1993 has had the exclusive worldwide right to assign all Internet addresses ending with the suffixes .com, .net, or .org. NSI is refusing to sign the contract Icann has developed, saying it gives more Icann more power than the Administration had intended; in particular, NSI is claiming sole ownership to the rights of its database of more than 5 million registered domain names. Commerce Department staffer Becky Burr is optimistic that the dispute will be resolved soon: "I believe it is in everybody's best interest not to swing threats around." In the meantime, Icann interim president Mike Roberts notes, "It's great political theater." (New York Times 28 Jun 99)

IS THERE A SHORTAGE OF INFO TECH PROFESSIONALS? A survey conducted on the Web site of Computer magazine to determine attitudes about the shortage of information technology professionals found that 54% of the 84 respondents believe that such a shortage indeed exists and that liberal immigration policies are generally a good idea; 36% deny that there's a shortage, and are convinced that corporate America is simply claiming one so that it can import less expensive workers instead of investing in the U.S. workforce. The rest of the respondents say that the global economy has created a new and complex problem which requires new kinds of solutions. (Computer May/Jun 99) http://www.computer.org/computer/bcsummary.htm

"WHO WANTS TO KNOW?" (CUSTOMIZED HISTORY FROM ENCARTA) Today's Wall Street Journal reports that the nine different editions of Microsoft's Encarta multimedia encyclopedia sometimes give different answers to the same question. For example, the U.S., U.K, and German editions say the inventor of the telephone was Alexander Graham Bell, whereas the Italian version says the inventor was the impoverished Italian-American candle maker Antonio Meucci. Other editions vary on who invented the electric light bulb, who discovered the virus that causes AIDS, and other such things. Microsoft says its editorial teams are made up of local experts, and company chief executive Bill Gates argued in 1997: "In the long run, exposing people to worldwide perspectives should be healthy. Americans benefit from a better understanding of the Asian or European view of important cultural and scientific events, and vice versa."

TRACKING ANONYMOUS SPAM If you hate getting all those "Make Money

Fast At Home!!!" messages from people who use hard-to-trace or false return addresses, you might want to use the services of www.spamcop.net, a Web site that allows you to take action against unsolicited junk e-mail messages sent out in bulk quantities. Spam Cop is able to dissect the header information on such messages, identify where they've come from, and send a message of complaint to the network administer of the Internet service provider the spammer is using. (New York Times Circuits Section 24 Jun 99) http://www.nytimes.com/library/tech/99/06/circuits/articles/24spam.html

Those were excerpts from: NewsScan newsscan@newsscan.com www.newsscan.com/, and send us mail: John Gehl gehl@NewsScan.com and Suzanne Douglas douglas@NewsScan.com, or call 770-590-1017.

THREE WEEK DELAY IN OPENING UP INTERNET NAME REGISTRATION
The process to open the registration of Internet domain names to competition has been delayed three weeks due to continued tensions between the Clinton administration, monopoly-holder Network Solutions, and would-be overseer ICANN. Many have accused ICANN of abusing its power, particularly by holding closed meetings and by assigning a $1 annual fee to every domain name registered. Many were also angered by ICANN's threat to terminate Network Solutions' authority to register new Internet addresses, although ICANN has since admitted that only the Commerce Department holds that authority. Government officials such as Virginia's Representative Thomas J. Bliley and Governor James Gilmore, as well as lobbyists on behalf of Network Solutions, have demanded investigations into the process of choosing board members and ICANN's authority to charge the $1 fee. Other major issues to be resolved include the question of ownership regarding Network Solutions' user database, the terms of ICANN's authority, and the prices that businesses must pay Network Systems to administer the central registry. (New York Times 06/28/99)

TEXTBOOK PUBLISHER LAYS PLANS FOR AN INTERNET UNIVERSITY
Academic publishing house Harcourt General is joining the growing business of distance education. It plans to expand its online offerings with three ventures: Harcourt University; an Internet high school for students planning to take high-school equivalency exams; and an e-commerce site called Harcourt.com. Through its university, Harcourt may become the first major publishing house to offer accredited college degrees, pending approval from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. Yet Harcourt faces much opposition, particularly from college professors concerned that Internet-based education denies students the personal interaction central to a traditional learning experience. University bookstores and other traditional distributors may also oppose the venture because it competes with their sales. Last, Harcourt will face strong competition from the companies and

universities already providing online courses. Harcourt maintains that its educational offerings will be unique. Its university, which may begin to offer courses by September 2000, will teach a range of subjects in arts and sciences. (Wall Street Journal 07/02/99)

U.S. EASES RESTRICTIONS ON SELLING FAST PCS TO RUSSIA AND CHINA President Clinton significantly reduced restrictions on exports of powerful computers, arguing that technological innovations have made laptop and desktop PCs as powerful as the supercomputers produced just a few years ago. Previously, companies were required to obtain individual export licenses to ship computers faster than 10,000 Mtops (Millions of theoretical operations per second) to a group of countries which include most of South America, South Korea, South Africa, and much of Southeast Asia, but Clinton's order increased the limit to 20,000 Mtops. The old laws also required companies shipping to a category of countries deemed "proliferation risks" – such as China and Russia – to obtain licenses to ship any computer faster than 2,000 Mtops to military users or 7,000 Mtops for civilian users. In contrast, Intel's Pentium III chip is rated at about 1,300 Mtops, and versions due out later this year will hit about 2,000 Mtops. (New York Times 07/02/99)

Y2K SCARE LEADS TO LARGER ADVANCES [I think this is just to counter the fact that most people will NOT buy computers now, and for the next 6 months, until the bug date has passed. . . which will mean HUGE losses for the economy. . . . mh]

Experts say the Y2K bug may actually benefit companies and the economy in general, as it forced many firms to completely overhaul their computer systems and re-engineer their business processes to become more efficient. Federal Reserve Governor Alan Greenspan noted in his June 1 congressional testimony that the American economy "is displaying a remarkable run of economic growth that appears to have its roots in ongoing advances in technology," and many experts say the Y2K bug is to blame. The millennium bug gave senior management an urgent deadline for assessing their computer systems as well as their entire business processes, resulting in "a dramatic surge in buying" of ERP systems, which reorganize and integrate a firm's accounting and other business practices. Thus many companies' antiquated business operations have been modernized, merged, and streamlined to prepare for Y2K, producing benefits such as increased productivity, improved customer responsiveness, reduced inventory, and increased efficiency. (Philadelphia Inquirer 07/01/99)

U.S. TO MARKET INFO-TECH WORK TO TEENS [This seesm to be more PR aimed at "growing the economy" at the expense of the workers. I know lots

of people in this field, and I'm not sure ANY of the people I hang out with on a daily basis are actually making the $68,000 "average" salary mentioned in an earlier one of these. However, it doesn't take too many Bill Gates to up the "average" beyond any useful meaning. . .perhaps "median" would be better.]

The Department of Commerce next year is planning to launch a major advertising campaign to convince teenagers to choose a career in information technology. The marketing campaign is intended to help ease the shortage of high-tech workers by convincing teenagers that computers are "cool" and to dispel the "negative 'geek' or 'nerd' stereotype of technical workers," according to Commerce Secretary William Daley. Analysts estimate that the U.S. tech industry will need more than 1.3 million tech workers between 1996 and 2000, with California, Texas, and Virginia being areas that will need workers the most. Among the steps the Department advises to ease the shortage are forging closer links between schools and tech companies, improving methods of teaching math and science in high schools, and increasing pay for teachers in those fields, and giving tech workers incentives to fill teaching positions and train older workers. (Washington Post 07/01/99)

Edupage … is what you've just finished reading excerpts of– to subscribe to Edupage: send mail to: listproc@educom.unc.edu with the message: subscribe edupage Susan B. Anthony (if your name is Susan B. Anthony; otherwise use your own name To unsubscribe send a message to: listproc@educom.unc.edu with the message: unsubscribe edupage. If you have problems, send email to manager@educom.unc.edu.) "I love Edupage." mh

Mac users can download our .txt files in binary mode to avoid the double spacing cr/lf line ends creates. Or download the .zip files, which unzip properly for nearly any operating system they are unzipped for…

About the Project Gutenberg Newsletter: [Goes out approximately first Wednesday of each month. But different relays will get it to you at different times; you can subscribe directly, just send me email to find out how, or surf to promo.net/pg to subscribe directly by yourself.]

and. . .for those who have read this far, some of our support notes that came in since I lost them in the big crash.

But are there really the texts of entire books? Is it possible? If yes, it must have been hard work - my admiration!

Keep up your great work. :)

This is truly one of the greatest things on the net. I go there all the time to

download and read my favorites. Thank you so much and yes, I am one of your fans.

PG has been one of, if not THE, the greatest aids to 'legitimizing' electronic book publishing of new works. Without your work to make classic literature available in electronic format, we'd have a LOT more difficulty with "But that's not a REAL book" than we do.

You have a LOT of fans here. PG is one of the greatest things on the net since the inception of the net. We can all only hope to make a large a contribution as you have.

I wish to thank all who have been, or are working on Project Gutenberg for compiling so many interesting books. They enable me, a student with limited financial means to read books that cannot be obtained otherwise.

This is a GREAT! project! I only regret that I just discovered it. [All the more reason we need to work on getting better PR–HELP!]

I can only thank everyone who've put in the hard work to make those books available on PG. In fact, I've read so many. . . .

Most recent read I did was last month, of the Gutenberg version of "The Insidious Dr Fu Manchu", a fiction novel.

Thanks gang, for all the excellent and invaluable work!

I have read several classics from cover to cover on my trusty Sharp laptop in the past year. Including PG's Pride and Prejudice and Villette (I think that was PG)

What Michael Hart and other public domain people are doing is a work of unprecedented philanthropy: a direct acceleration of the democratisation of knowledge. They are to be applauded.

All the best, and thanks for all the wonderful work you have been doing on the project. . . .

As always, please add my thanks to the list…

Michael

AUGUST 1999

This is the Project Gutenberg Newsletter for Wednesday, August 4, 1999

Etexts Readable By Both Humans and Computers Since Before The Internet [Usually sent the first Wednesday of each month, delayed if by relay.] Main URL is promo.net Webmaster is Pietro di Miceli, of Rome, Italy *Check out our Websites at promo.net, and ask me for our FTP servers.*

Table of 1Contest:

Requests

New Files

Index Listings for the New Files

1Notess from Edupage and News Scan

Requests

Would anyone like to do any of these? Just let me know. We have the books already.

Grey, Zane. The Man of the Forest. New York: Harper, 1920. Ken Ward in the Jungle. New York: Harper, 1912.

Wells, H. G. The Passionate Friends. New York: A. L. Burt, 1913. In the Fourth Year. New York: Macmillan, 1918.

-

Would anyone like to work on Romanian Etexts?

-

We need someone to unRTF a small file. /home1/36/hart/TARASCON.TEX I will give you the password.

-

My idea is to translate into Etext Henryk Sienkiewcz's books. He was 1905

Nobel laureat in literature. Is there anybody who can check my work (remember - it's in polish!!!) after scanning/correcting? From: Rafal Stein Rafal.Stein@nokia.com Please cc:me

New Files

We have a very interesting collection of Etext for you this August.

First, two new languages are introduced, Swedish and Danish, and an introduction to Etext from Project Runeberg, the very first Project Project Gutenberg spin-off, which started 7 years ago. Why did the introduction take so long, as with the Gutenberg Projekt-DE [we are also going to introduce you to them] many Etext projects wanted the opportunity to make it on their own. . .which we were glad to have, until things had gotten strongly underway. So we decided to wait a while, at least until our own Project Gutenberg effort had made the leap to one or two thousand Etexts of our own. So, now, in efforts to create a wider availability of languages on the Internet, we are cooperating with Project Runeberg, the Gutenberg Projekt-DE and the other Etext operations working in the public domain, to bring wider language selections to a wider audience around the world. I didn't realize that it was not obvious that downloading from European site locations was very difficult for persons in South Africa, and South America, Australia, New Zealand, etc. . .or I would have made a big effort to make this more obvious to everyone sooner. This fact was a big part in securing the cooperation of the other projects, along with the fact that we are happy give full credit, list URLs and all other contact information for those who create these Etexts. We do not have this information for the Danish Bible, if you can help….

[Yes, there is a double negative three sentences up. . .mh]

In addition to Swedish and Danish, we are also continuing with some German Etexts, including those from our own volunteers. . .Goethe's Egmont is available this month, and hopefully at least one Etext in German each month to come, perhaps two. . .one of our own, plus one from Projekt Gutenberg-DE.

We also continue our series of Human Genome Project chromosomes, to include 6 more. . .for a total of 12 of the 24 human chromosomes; I should add that we have chosen the shortest of the 24 files, to get things going as easily as possible. The last one is 50 megabytes!! And these only add up to about 11% of the whole thing, so if you do want these, the total will eventually be 3.3G.

In addition, we have two more volumes of our Friedrich series; that now brings our total to 10 of the 21 volumes by Carlyle.

To bring the introduction to a close, we have Thomas More's Utopia, along with a few dozen other Etexts you will see listed below.

Due to the way we have indexed these for future convenience, we are including [all from the year 2000] 6 Etexts from June, 25 of April, and 12

from March. . .yes, we usually do post a few more than 36 as the Newsletter comes out on the first Wednesday of the month, so we have a few days of work from the next month, which I feel we should include, rather than make you wait an additional month.

I should add a few comments about using http ["The Web"] versus ftp ["The Net"]. . .if you use http, then you have to wait for a "human being" to index the files for that Web Site. . .unless they have an automated indexing system, which is usually not the case. . .but if you use ftp [which you can now do from most Web Browsers, you don't have to wait for such an index to be built. However, these indices are often very valuable in searching for what you want, so I should strongly recommend you use them when, other then when searching for the very latest Etexts. . .the indices usually contain everything I have posted, other than from the most recent Newsletter. If you do want to use ftp, keep this Newsletter's contents on file so you can recognize which filenames you want to get.

And now, here are 43? Etexts from March, April and June, of year 2000.

Apr 2000 The Works of Edgar Allan Poe V5[Raven Edition][10] [poe5vxxx.xxx]2151

1Contest Philosophy of Furniture A Tale of Jerusalem The Sphinx Hop Frog The Man of the Crowd Never Bet the Devill Your Head Thou Art the Man Why the Little Frenchman Wears his Hand in a Sling Bon-Bon Some words with a Mummy The Poetic Principle Old English Poetry and other poems including The Raven, Lenore, and many others.

Apr 2000 The Works of Edgar Allan Poe V4[Raven Edition][#9] [poe4vxxx.xxx]2150

1Contest The Devil in the Belfry Lionizing X-ing a Paragrab Metzengerstein The System of Doctor Tarr and Professor Fether The Literary Life of Thingum Bob, Esq. How to Write a Blackwood article A Predicament Mystification Diddling The Angel of the Odd Mellonia Tauta The Duc de l'Omlette The Oblong Box Loss of Breath The Man That Was Used Up The Business Man The Landscape Garden Maelzel's Chess-Player The Power of Words The Colloquy of Monas and Una The Conversation of Eiros and Charmion Shadow.–A Parable

Apr 2000 The Works of Edgar Allan Poe V3[Raven Edition][#8] [poe3vxxx.xxx]2149

1Contest Narrative of A. Gordon Pym Ligeia Morella A Tale of the Ragged Mountains The Spectacles King Pest Three Sundays in a Week

Apr 2000 The Works of Edgar Allan Poe V2[Raven Edition][#7] [poe2vxxx.xxx]2148

1Contest The Purloined Letter The Thousand-and-Second Tale of Scheherezade A Descent into the Maelstrvm Von Kempelen and his Discovery Mesmeric Revelation The Facts in the Case of M. Valdemar The Black Cat The Fall of the House of Usher Silence – a Fable The Masque of the Red Death The Cask of Amontillado The Imp of the Perverse The Island of the Fay The Assignation The Pit and the Pendulum The Premature Burial The Domain of Arnheim Landor's Cottage William Wilson The Tell-Tale Heart Berenice Eleonora

Apr 2000 The Works of Edgar Allan Poe V1[Raven Edition][#6] [poe1vxxx.xxx]2147

1Contest Edgar Allan Poe, An Appreciation Life of Poe, by James Russell Lowell Death of Poe, by N. P. Willis The Unparalled Adventures of One Hans Pfall The Gold Bug Four Beasts in One The Murders in the Rue Morgue The Mystery of Marie Rogjt The Balloon Hoax MS. Found in a Bottle The Oval Portrait

Apr 2000 Egmont, by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe[German] [#5] [8gmntxxx.xxx]2146

Apr 2000 Egmont, by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe[German] [#5] [7gmntxxx.xxx]2146

We produce two versions of each of our Etexts that have diacritic accents, an 8 bit version with the accents included, and a 7 bit version without them, so all our readers can download a version they can read on whatever programs. mh [The 8 bit version filenames begin with 8xxxx, and the 7 bit ones with 7xxxx]

Apr 2000 Ben-Hur: A Tale of the Christ, by Lew Wallace [benhrxxx.xxx]2145

Apr 2000 The Bible, in Danish, Old Testament, Copyrighted [bbldoxxx.xxx]2144C Apr 2000 The Bible, in Danish, New Testament, Public Domain[bbldnxxx.xxx]2143

Apr 2000 Childhood, by Leo Tolstoy/Tolstoi [Leo Tolstoy #7] [chldhxxx.xxx]2142

Apr 2000 Strictly Business[More 4 Million] by O Henry[OH#7] [stbusxxx.xxx]2141

Contains: STRICTLY BUSINESS THE GOLD THAT GLITTERED BABES IN THE JUNGLE THE DAY RESURGENT THE FIFTH WHEEL THE POET AND THE PEASANT THE ROBE OF PEACE THE GIRL AND THE GRAFT THE CALL OF THE TAME THE UNKNOWN QUANTITY THE THING'S THE PLAY A RAMBLE IN APHASIA A MUNICIPAL REPORT PSYCHE AND THE PSKYSCRAPER A BIRD OF BAGDAD COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON A NIGHT IN NEW ARABIA THE GIRL AND THE HABIT PROOF OF THE PUDDING PAST ONE AT RODNEY'S THE VENTURERS THE DUEL "WHAT YOU WANT"

Apr 2000 Extracts from the Diary of William Bray, by Bray [drbryxxx.xxx]2140

Apr 2000 Alvira, Heroine of Vesuvius, by A. J. O'Reilly [alvraxxx.xxx]2139

Apr 2000 The Day's Work - Part I, by Rudyard Kipling [RK#7] [dywrkxxx.xxx]2138

Apr 2000 Rosamund, by Algernon Charles Swinburne [ACS #2] [rsmndxxx.xxx]2137

Apr 2000 The Tale of Balen, by Algernon Charles Swinburne 1[balenxxx.xxx]2136

Apr 2000 Stories by English Authors in London, Scribners [sbealxxx.xxx]2135

Apr 2000 Utopia of Usurers, et al, by G. K. Chesterton[#14] [uusryxxx.xxx]2134

Apr 2000 Chinese Sketches, by Herbert A. Giles [Giles #2] [chnskxxx.xxx]2133

Apr 2000 The Daughter of an Empress, by Louise Muhlbach [dmprsxxx.xxx]2132

Apr 2000 An Account of Egypt, by Herodotus, Tr. by Macaulay[agyptxxx.xxx]2131

Apr 2000 Utopia, by Thomas More[Banned in his time][More#2] [utopixxx.xxx]2130

Apr 2000 Murad the Unlucky, etc., by Maria Edgeworth[ME #3] [muradxxx.xxx]2129

Apr 2000 Original Narratives of Early American History[var] [mohwkxxx.xxx]2128

Apr 2000 Paul and Virginia, by Bernardin de Saint Pierre [pandvxxx.xxx]2127

Mar 2000 The Quest of the Sacred Slipper, by Sax Rohmer[#6] [qotssxxx.xxx]2126

Mar 2000 The Nile Tributaries of Abyssinia, Samuel W. Baker[niletxxx.xxx]2125

Mar 2000 Record of Buddhistic Kingdoms, by Fa-Hien[Legge#1] [rbddhxxx.xxx]2124

Mar 2000 The Crime of Sylvestre Bonnard by Anatole France 3[tcosbxxx.xxx]2123

Mar 2000 Carlyle's "History of Friedrich II of Prussia V 10[10frdxxx.xxx]2110

Mar 2000 Carlyle's "History of Friedrich II of Prussia V 9 [09frdxxx.xxx]2109

Mar 2000 The Bible, in Swedish, From Project Runeberg [biblsxxx.xxx]2100

Mar 2000 History of the Moravian Church, by J. E. Hutton [hotmcxxx.xxx]2099

Mar 2000 A Thief in the Night, by E. W. Hornung[Hornung #4] [thfntxxx.xxx]2098

Mar 2000 The Sign of the Four, by Arthur Conan Doyle [#16] [sign4xxx.xxx]2097

Mar 2000 A Smaller History of Greece, by William Smith [asmhgxxx.xxx]2096

Mar 2000 Clotelle: A Tale of the Southern States, by Brown [clotlxxb.xxx]2095

and

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 20 [20hgpxxx.xxx]2220

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 14 [14hgpxxx.xxx]2214

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 12

[14hgpxxx.xxx]2212

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 11
[11hgpxxx.xxx]2211

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 05
[05hgpxxx.xxx]2205

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 04
[04hgpxxx.xxx]2204

Not all sites have the ??hgp10.txt file, due to size limitations.

Last month we failed to report properly the other characters in the chromosome files besides ATGC. . .here they are:

? Meaning a a; adenine c c; cytosine g g; guanine t t; thymine in DNA; uracil in RNA m a or c r a or g w a or t s c or g y c or t k g or t v a or c or g; not t h a or c or t; not g d a or g or t; not c b c or g or t; not a n a or c or g or t

AOL TO MICROSOFT: SORRY, BUT IT'S A PRIVATE PARTY America Online is trying to block attempts by Microsoft's new MSN Messenger Service to let Microsoft customers exchange messages instantly with AOL's community of users. Charging Microsoft with trespassing on its system, AOL has erected several software barriers to Microsoft's efforts, prompting Microsoft to respond to each obstruction by developing an immediate software workaround. Forrester Research analyst Tom Rhinelander sees the argument as "kind of like a food fight, like a couple of juveniles saying 'You can't do this,' 'Yes I can,' 'You can't do this,' 'Yes I can.' … AOL will say 'we've got to be careful about security and scalability,' and all these kinds of things. But they'll be forced to open up to the other folks, there's no way around it." (San Jose Mercury News 27 Jul 99) http://www.sjmercury.com/svtech/news/indepth/docs/instan072799.htm

INTERNET FEVER SPREADS TO BRITAIN With British ISP Freeserve PLC enjoying a 37% stock price increase on the first day of public trading, Britain.is getting its first experience of the wild Internet success stories now common in the U.S. Freeserve, which is now the largest access provider in Britain, developed a business model that gives customers free access – and derives its revenue exclusively by taking a share of phone revenue generated by the cost of the telephone calls users place to Freeserve. Unlike the U.S., where phone customers in most parts of the country can make unlimited local calls for a flat monthly charge, European phone companies (at least for the present!) charge by minutes of connect time. (New York Times 27 Jul 99) http://www.nytimes.com/library/tech/99/07/biztech/articles/27net.html

RUSSIAN ISP SAYS “NYET” TO SPYING Russian Internet service provider Bayard-Slavia is refusing to obey a directive that gives the country’s Federal Security Service (FSB) the right to examine private e-mail messages without a warrant. The System of Efficient Research Measures 2directive also requires ISPs to pay for surveillance equipment in their servers and for a link to FSB headquarters. In retaliation for Bayard-Slavia’s recalcitrance, the FSB has withdrawn the ISP’s license, frozen its bank account, and is challenging its right to frequencies for its satellite link to Moscow. “We will never help the FSB implement illegal shadowing,” says Bayard-Slavia’s director general. “We’re the first ISP to struggle against illegal information collection. Unfortunately, we’re also likely to become the first to be destroyed because of insubordination.” (Data Communications 26 Jul 99) http://www.techweb.com/news/story/TWB19990726S0003

You have been reading excerpts from NewsScan: If you have questions or comments about NewsScan send e-mail to Editors@newsscan.com To subscribe or unsubscribe to NewsScan Daily, send an e-mail message to NewsScan@NewsScan.com with ‘subscribe’ or ‘unsubscribe’ in the subject line.

INTERNET RIVALS ATTEMPT TO OPEN UP AOL’S INSTANT MESSAGE SYSTEM A number of Internet service providers aim to establish open access to America Online’s exclusive instant messaging programs. Instant messaging notifies users when their friends are online and allows them to type messages to each other. It is an increasingly popular form of communication, and with three services and a total 80 million users, AOL dominates the market. Yet Microsoft, Yahoo!, and Prodigy each attempted to change this recently by creating rival services that can communicate with users of AOL’s services. AOL responded to this threat by changing its communications protocols, effectively eliminating the rival programs’ access to its service. While Microsoft has been able to adjust its software to access AOL, Yahoo! and Prodigy have not. The three contend that AOL should open its technology to facilitate interaction between users of all services. Yet AOL argues that because access to its services was unauthorized, the rival services have breached accepted security standards. (Wall Street Journal 07/26/99)

You have been reading excerpts from Edupage: If you have questions or comments about Edupage, send e-mail to: edupage@educause.edu To SUBSCRIBE to Edupage, send a message to LISTSERV@LISTSERV.EDUCAUSE.EDU and in the body of the message type: SUBSCRIBE Edupage YourFirstName YourLastName

From Dr. Internet

Don't Believe What They Tell You About Having To Turn Your Cookies On

Telling you that you must turn your cookies on. . . ? Do NOT believe! There is no service provided on the Web or on the entire Internet that really requires you to turn your cookies on. . .I suggest you email to postmaster, root and support @ any domains that say this and tell them you do not plan to use their servies until they stop this. Unless you are doing some seriously expert usage, there should be no need to turn cookies on for anything.

Mac users can download our .txt files in binary mode to avoid the double spacing cr/lf line ends creates. Or download the .zip files, which unzip properly for nearly any operating system they are unzipped for…

About the Project Gutenberg Newsletter: [Goes out approximately first Wednesday of each month. But different relays will get it to you at different times; you can subscribe directly, just send me email to find out how, or surf to promo.net/pg to subscribe directly by yourself.]

SEPTEMBER 1999

This is Project Gutenberg's Newsletter of Wednesday, September 1, 1999

Etexts Readable By Both Humans and Computers Since Before The Internet [Usually sent the first Wednesday of each month, delayed if by relay.] Main URL is promo.net Webmaster is Pietro di Miceli, of Rome, Italy *Check out our Websites at promo.net, and ask me for our FTP servers.*

Welcome to our new sites at:

http://www.cddc.vt.edu/gutenberg

ftp://www2.cddc.vt.edu/pub/mirrors

We also have a new Etext in German. . .but like an American Western.

It looks like we will be able to make our goal of one Etext in German each month. . .and more volunteers in German are more than welcome.

We would also like to post one Etext per month in other languages, if you would care to help with those, please let me know.

**

Table of 1Contest:

Requests

Comments on Our Schedule

New Files

Index Listings for the New Files

1Notess from Edupage and News Scan

**

Requests

**

We would like to complete the Tom Swift series, up to 1922, if any of you would care to help with that, Mike said virtually .

Please contact: Ron Benninghoff rbenning@tampabay.rr.com, please also cc:me

I am working on #2 [Motorboat]

I also have the following books that I will do:

Tom Swift and his Wireless Message Tom Swift in Captivity Tom Swift in the City of Gold

We need proofreaders for these.

**

We still need copies of Faust in German that say their text is before 1923. . .we have the Etext, but we need to do the proofreading and the copyright research. . . ! Contact me, and please cc: Mike Pullen globaltraveler5565@yahoo.com Also need Herman and Dorothea in German.

**

We received no replies to our request for help on Romanian Etext.

**

Ben Bennett fiji@ayup.limey.net would like to continue with the 11th Edition of the Britannica. . .please cc:me. . . .

**

Comments on Our Schedule

A number of people have asked about our current schedule…

My apologies for jumping so far into the future for some of the files we are currently working on, but putting them all in a single block in the index really makes it much easier, for us, and also for those using the raw index I produce in the first week of each month, relating the postings, events and other comments from the previous month.

The quick answers:

1. We are currently about 8 months ahead of our schedule.

2. We are currently just barely making our schedule of 36 Etexts per month. . .so we can't increase scheduling.

3. We reserved space in March, 2000 for a 21 volume set, of which we have now completed 11 volumes. We also reserved space in June, 2000, for Human Genome files, of which we have now complete 18 chromosomes, but this leaves some gaps still to be filled. . .we have just finished all the April, 2000, Etexts, and started on May. . .all of which you will see indexed below. If possible, I will sneak in the last 6 chromosomes for this Newsletter, but it will be very close. . .they are big files, and the person who helps me with them is unavailable at the moment.

The more detailed answers:

Our current official schedule is to do 36 Etext per month– I am TRYING to do 40 per month–but it is a tough go at the moment, with so many of our academic people having been out for the summer, and not really back in the saddle yet. . .I am therefore officially sticking to the 36 Etexts per month schedule, but doing my best to really make it average 40.

If we CAN average 40, we will reach 3,333 Etexts by the end of 2001. . . . We were going to try to double production– every year–but without and serious Public Relations effort or funding effort, we have still survived, but not expanded our production much from the 32 Etexts per month we did for several years. . .this is still more than anyone else but I do hope can eventually move to 72 per month, and then more.

But this will take some serious PR and financial grant work . . .if ANY of you are interested, please let me know.

Now. . .having said ALL that. . .we somehow managed a great deal of extra

production during the last 6 months last year . . .no one seems to have any idea why. . .but we actually, really did manage to average 72 Etext per month then, so we ended up about 8 months ahead of schedule. . .since we were about a month or two ahead when we started that period. . . we have never quite figured out what happened, and we can't really change our schedule without the premise that this is actually possible on a continuing basis, without additional resources. . .so it is just one of those little mysteries– and a very nice one to have had.

So. . .we started this year about 7-8 months ahead. . .this is why we started the Etexts for the year 2000 a few months ago. . . . If we manage an extra 4 Etext per month for the first 9 months or a bit longer we will end up with one more month done ahead of schedule. . .but even with the 24 files of the Human Genome Project going in right now, it looks as if we will have to work pretty hard to achieve that goal.

**

Reposted Files:

Apr 1999 Our Legal Heritage, by S. A. Reilly [2nd Edition] [rlglhxxa.xxx]1694

The new version is rlglh10a.txt and .zip. . .in /etext99 This is direct from the author, the brand new edition, and pretty interesting

and

Jan 2000 Iphigenie auf Tauris, Johann von Goethe[#4] German[iphgnxxx.xxx]2054

Jul 1998 Anna Karenina, by Leo Tolstoy/Tolstoi [Tolstoy #5] [nkrnnxxx.xxx]1399

[A much improved version. . . .]

**

New Files

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, X Chromosome [#23] [0xhgpxxx.xxx]2223

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 22 [22hgpxxx.xxx]2222

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 18 [18hgpxxx.xxx]2218

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 17 [17hgpxxx.xxx]2217

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 07 [07hgpxxx.xxx]2207

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 06 [06hgpxxx.xxx]2206

We have now posted 18 of the 24 chomosomes, should be done with the first version of all 24 sometime this month.

And from May:

Mon Year Title and Author [filename.ext]#### *****A “C” Following a Project Gutenberg Etext Number Indicates Copyright****

May 2000 Seven Discourses on Art, by Joshua Reynolds [artdsxxx.xxx]2176

May 2000 You Never Can Tell, by [George] Bernard Shaw [#7] [nvrctxxx.xxx]2175

May 2000 Frau und Kindern auf der Spur, by Gerold K. Rohner[8spurxxx.xxx]2174C May 2000 Frau und Kindern auf der Spur, by Gerold K. Rohner[7spurxxx.xxx]2174C German/Two versions/7-bit version without accents/8-bit version with accents.*

May 2000 Thoughts on Present Discontents, etc., by Burke [thdscxxx.xxx]2173

May 2000 That Mainwaring Affair, by Maynard Barbour [mnwrnxxx.xxx]2172

May 2000 Brother Jacob, by George Eliot [George Eliot #5] [brjcbxxx.xxx]2171

May 2000 Misc Writings and Speeches, Lord Macaulay V4 of 4[4mwsmxxx.xxx]2170 *May 2000 Misc Writings and Speeches, Lord Macaulay V3 of 4[3mwsmxxx.xxx]2169* May 2000 Misc Writings and Speeches, Lord Macaulay V2 of 4[2mwsmxxx.xxx]2168* May 2000 Misc Writings and Speeches, Lord Macaulay V1 of 4[1mwsmxxx.xxx]2167

[Only volume 1 is done right now, the other three are reserved for later..mh]

May 2000 King Solomon's Mines, by H. Rider Haggard [HRH #9] [7kslmxxx.xxx]2166

May 2000 King Solomon's Mines, by H. Rider Haggard [HRH #9] [8kslmxxx.xxx]2166

Two versions, 7-bit version without accents, 8-bit version with accents.
May 2000 The Lifted Veil, by George Eliot [George Eliot #4] [lftvlxxx.xxx]2165

May 2000 The Lumley Autograph Susan Fenimore Cooper[SFC#2] [lumlyxxx.xxx]2164

May 2000 The Bridge-Builders, by Mark Twain[Mark Twain #16] [brdgbxxx.xxx]2163

And we have finally finished all the Etexts for April, 2000, all listed here:

Apr 2000 Anarchism and Other Essays, by Emma Goldman [nrcsmxxx.xxx]2162

Apr 2000 Song Book of Quong Lee of Limehouse, Thomas Burke [qunglxxx.xxx]2161

Apr 2000 The Expedition of Humphry Clinker, Tobias Smollett[txohcxxx.xxx]2160

Apr 2000 A Little Tour In France, by Henry James[James #20] [altifxxx.xxx]2159

Apr 2000 The Prime Minister, by Anthony Trollope[Trollope5] [prmnsxxx.xxx]2158

Apr 2000 Female Suffrage, by Susan Fenimore Cooper [SFC #3] [sffrgxxx.xxx]2157

Apr 2000 China and the Manchus, by Herbert A. Giles [#3] [8mnchxxx.xxx]2156

Apr 2000 China and the Manchus, by Herbert A. Giles [#3] [7mnchxxx.xxx]2156

7mnch is the 7-bit Plain Vanilla ASCII version/8mnch uses extended characters

Apr 2000 Phyllis of Philistia, by Frank Frankfort Moore [phophxxx.xxx]2155

Apr 2000 Around the World in 80 Days Jr. Ed. by Jules Verne[80dayxxa.xxx]2154

[A totally different edition than prevously released this = 80day10a.xxx] Also see: Jan 1994 Around the World in 80 Days by Jules Verne[Verne2] [80day10x.xxx] 103

Apr 2000 Mary Barton, by Elizabeth Gaskell [Gaskell #4] [mbrtnxxx.xxx]2153

Apr 2000 On the Makaloa Mat/Island Tales, Jack London 72-78[mklmtxxx.xxx]2152

[We stopped numbering the stories individually, but since these are close to the last stories he ever wrote, we will finish Jack London this same way. mh] Contains Apr 2000 The Kanaka Surf, by Jack London [Jack London #78] [mklmtxxx.xxx]2152

Apr 2000 The Tears of Ah Kim, by Jack London [London #77] [mklmtxxx.xxx]2152

Apr 2000 The Water Baby, by Jack London [Jack London #76] [mklmtxxx.xxx]2152

Apr 2000 Shin-Bones, by Jack London [Jack London #75] [mklmtxxx.xxx]2152

Apr 2000 When Alice Told Her Soul, by Jack London [JL#74] [mklmtxxx.xxx]2152

Apr 2000 The Bones of Kahekili, by Jack London [London #73] [mklmtxxx.xxx]2152

Apr 2000 On the Makaloa Mat, by Jack London [London #72] [mklmtxxx.xxx]2152

On the Makaloa Mat The Bones of Kahekili When Alice Told her Soul Shin-Bones The Water Baby The Tears of Ah Kim The Kanaka Surf

Apr 2000 The Works of Edgar Allan Poe V5[Raven Edition][10] [poe5vxxx.xxx]2151

1Contest Philosophy of Furniture A Tale of Jerusalem The Sphinx Hop Frog The Man of the Crowd Never Bet the Devill Your Head Thou Art the Man Why the Little Frenchman Wears his Hand in a Sling Bon-Bon Some words with a Mummy The Poetic Principle Old English Poetry and other poems

including The Raven, Lenore, and many others.

Apr 2000 The Works of Edgar Allan Poe V4[Raven Edition][#9] [poe4vxxx.xxx]2150

1Contest The Devil in the Belfry Lionizing X-ing a Paragrab Metzengerstein The System of Doctor Tarr and Professor Fether The Literary Life of Thingum Bob, Esq. How to Write a Blackwood article A Predicament Mystification Diddling The Angel of the Odd Mellonia Tauta The Duc de l'Omlette The Oblong Box Loss of Breath The Man That Was Used Up The Business Man The Landscape Garden Maelzel's Chess-Player The Power of Words The Colloquy of Monas and Una The Conversation of Eiros and Charmion Shadow.–A Parable

Apr 2000 The Works of Edgar Allan Poe V3[Raven Edition][#8] [poe3vxxx.xxx]2149

1Contest Narrative of A. Gordon Pym Ligeia Morella A Tale of the Ragged Mountains The Spectacles King Pest Three Sundays in a Week

Apr 2000 The Works of Edgar Allan Poe V2[Raven Edition][#7] [poe2vxxx.xxx]2148

1Contest The Purloined Letter The Thousand-and-Second Tale of Scheherezade A Descent into the Maelstrvm Von Kempelen and his Discovery Mesmeric Revelation The Facts in the Case of M. Valdemar The Black Cat The Fall of the House of Usher Silence – a Fable The Masque of the Red Death The Cask of Amontillado The Imp of the Perverse The Island of the Fay The Assignation The Pit and the Pendulum The Premature Burial The Domain of Arnheim Landor's Cottage William Wilson The Tell-Tale Heart Berenice Eleonora

Apr 2000 The Works of Edgar Allan Poe V1[Raven Edition][#6] [poe1vxxx.xxx]2147

1Contest Edgar Allan Poe, An Appreciation Life of Poe, by James Russell Lowell Death of Poe, by N. P. Willis The Unparalled Adventures of One Hans Pfall The Gold Bug Four Beasts in One The Murders in the Rue Morgue The Mystery of Marie Rogjt The Balloon Hoax MS. Found in a Bottle The Oval Portrait

Apr 2000 Egmont, by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe[German] [#5] [8gmntxxx.xxx]2146

Apr 2000 Egmont, by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe[German] [#5]

[7gmntxxx.xxx]2146

We produce two versions of each of our Etexts that have diacritic accents, an 8 bit version with the accents included, and a 7 bit version without them, so all our readers can download a version they can read on whatever programs. mh [The 8 bit version filenames begin with 8xxxx, and the 7 bit ones with 7xxxx]

Apr 2000 Ben-Hur: A Tale of the Christ, by Lew Wallace [benhrxxx.xxx]2145

Apr 2000 The Bible, in Danish, Old Testament, Copyrighted [bbldoxxx.xxx]2144C Apr 2000 The Bible, in Danish, New Testament, Public Domain[bbldnxxx.xxx]2143

Apr 2000 Childhood, by Leo Tolstoy/Tolstoi [Leo Tolstoy #7] [chldhxxx.xxx]2142

Apr 2000 Strictly Business[More 4 Million] by O Henry[OH#7] [stbusxxx.xxx]2141

Contains: STRICTLY BUSINESS THE GOLD THAT GLITTERED BABES IN THE JUNGLE THE DAY RESURGENT THE FIFTH WHEEL THE POET AND THE PEASANT THE ROBE OF PEACE THE GIRL AND THE GRAFT THE CALL OF THE TAME THE UNKNOWN QUANTITY THE THING'S THE PLAY A RAMBLE IN APHASIA A MUNICIPAL REPORT PSYCHE AND THE PSKYSCRAPER A BIRD OF BAGDAD COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON A NIGHT IN NEW ARABIA THE GIRL AND THE HABIT PROOF OF THE PUDDING PAST ONE AT RODNEY'S THE VENTURERS THE DUEL "WHAT YOU WANT"

Apr 2000 Extracts from the Diary of William Bray, by Bray [drbryxxx.xxx]2140

Apr 2000 Alvira, Heroine of Vesuvius, by A. J. O'Reilly [alvraxxx.xxx]2139

Apr 2000 The Day's Work - Part I, by Rudyard Kipling [RK#7] [dywrkxxx.xxx]2138

Apr 2000 Rosamund, by Algernon Charles Swinburne [ACS #2] [rsmndxxx.xxx]2137

Apr 2000 The Tale of Balen, by Algernon Charles Swinburne 1[balenxxx.xxx]2136

Apr 2000 Stories by English Authors in London, Scribners [sbealxxx.xxx]2135

Contains: The Inconsiderate Waiter, by J. M. Barrie The Black Poodle, by F. Anstry That Brute Simmons, by Arthur Morrison A Rose of the Ghetto, by I. Zangwill The Omnibus, by “Q” [Quiller-Couch] The Hired Baby, by Marie Correlli

Apr 2000 Utopia of Usurers, et al, by G. K. Chesterton[#14] [uusryxxx.xxx]2134

Apr 2000 Chinese Sketches, by Herbert A. Giles [Giles #2] [chnskxxx.xxx]2133

Apr 2000 The Daughter of an Empress, by Louise Muhlbach [dmprsxxx.xxx]2132

Apr 2000 An Account of Egypt, by Herodotus, Tr. by Macaulay[agyptxxx.xxx]2131

Apr 2000 Utopia, by Thomas More[Banned in his time][More#2] [utopixxx.xxx]2130

Apr 2000 Murad the Unlucky, etc., by Maria Edgeworth[ME #3] [muradxxx.xxx]2129

Apr 2000 Original Narratives of Early American History[var] [mohwkxxx.xxx]2128

Apr 2000 Paul and Virginia, by Bernardin de Saint Pierre [pandvxxx.xxx]2127

And one from March

Mar 2000 Carlyle’s “History of Friedrich II of Prussia V 11[11frdxxx.xxx]2111

[We still have 10 more to go in this series]

**

1Notess from Edupage

NAVY OFFICIALS BACK OFF DIRE Y2K FORECAST [Under Duress] The Navy issued a statement denying its earlier reports of expected power failures resulting from the year 2000 (Y2K) computer bug for nearly 60 Navy and Marine Corps installations. The first Navy report found the probable and likely failure of natural gas, electricity, water and sewer utility services in communities near the installations. The Navy retracted the statement, saying

it now agrees with the White House assessment, which states electrical failures will be unlikely in the new year. Meanwhile, the Navy has not yet completed verifying Y2K computer readiness for various Navy and Marine Corps communities. The Navy posted its original findings on the Internet, but removed them due to inaccurate and misleading information. Navy officials say the database will be put back on the Internet, accompanied with text explaining the findings. (Washington Post 08/21/99)

[Here is the original report]

NAVY Y2K REPORT PREDICTS 'LIKELY' UTILITY OUTAGES IN SEVERAL CITIES A recent updated Navy report predicts that electric utilities serving nearly 60 of the approximately 400 Navy and Marine facilities will probably suffer a power outage due to the year 2000 (Y2K) computer bug. The military report also expected power failures in several cities, including Orlando and Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.; as well as some midwinter natural gas failures in such places as Fort Worth, Texas; Columbus, Ohio; and Albany, N.Y. The Navy report is in sharp contrast to other predictions, including conclusions from the White House. John Koskinen–President Clinton's top Y2K advisor–said the Navy's results were overly cautious and were based on the worst-case scenario. (Washington Post 08/20/99)

WIRED ON CAMPUS E-LIFE Many students are beginning to pick universities based on how "wired" they are, according to a recent article in USA Today. This is because students are performing more functions online, from registering for classes and communicating with professors to ordering take-out, than ever before. Of the 15 million students currently attending a college, 60 percent say they go online daily, and 85 percent of students own their own computers, according to research firm Student Monitor. The company predicts that university students will spend $700 million online during the next school year, and over $4 billion online annually by 2002. (USA Today 08/19/99)

MICROSOFT-AOL WAR HEATS UP OVER NET ACCESS Though America Online is on top of the online service provider heap right now, Microsoft is aiming to knock it from its perch. While AOL continues to charge for its service, Microsoft wishes to move the market towards free or cheap access. The company has tested a $9.95 price point for monthly access fees, and is mulling over the idea of giving free access to consumers who agree to spend a certain amount each month with some of Microsoft's e-commerce partners. For its part, AOL says that Microsoft's attempts to undercut monthly charges will ultimately not be successful, as even deep-pocketed Microsoft cannot afford to lose money on Internet access forever. Meanwhile, Microsoft says its moves against AOL are protective in nature, believing that in the near future

AOL is planning to become an online software platform to rival Microsoft's Windows. (Wall Street Journal 08/05/99)

[More on the same subject]

ALTAVISTA OFFERING FREE INTERNET ACCESS AltaVista Thursday launched a free Internet access service, becoming the first major Internet site to do so. The company, which owns one of the Web's 10 most visited sites, hopes to attract more customers by providing free Internet access. Although AltaVista will lose subscription revenues, the company believes increased ad revenues will compensate for the loss. AltaVista users will be required to begin their Web surfing from the AltaVista home page, and will have an ad constantly in the corner of their computer screens. In addition, a MicroPortal will appear on the screen that contains banner ads as well as links to shopping and search sites. Although AltaVista will not sell consumer registration information, it will use the data to customize ads to a user's interests, says AltaVista spokesperson David Emmanuel. (USA Today 08/13/99)

You have been reading excerpts from Edupage: If you have questions or comments about Edupage, send e-mail to: edupage@educause.edu To SUBSCRIBE to Edupage, send a message to LISTSERV@LISTSERV.EDUCAUSE.EDU and in the body of the message type: SUBSCRIBE Edupage YourFirstName YourLastName

1Notess from Newsscan Daily

CLEVELAND FREE-NET CLOSES DOWN Cleveland Free-Net, which was the nation's first free community computer network, will shut down this Fall rather go through the effort and expense of reprogramming the system to make it Y2K-compliant. One long-time user of the Free-Net, which started in 1984 as an electronic bulletin board at Case Western Reserve University, said: "It's just sad to see it go. It's an institution." (AP/San Jose Mercury News 5 Aug 99) http://www.sjmercury.com/svtech/news/breaking/ap/docs/722931l.htm

CRYPTOGRAPHER DESIGNS SUPER-CODE-CRACKING COMPUTER Cryptographer Adi Shamir of the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel has designed a computer that uses light-emitting diode technology to crack 512-bit encryption keys in just two or three days. A recent effort to crack 465-bit keys took hundreds of computers and several months. Twinkle, which stands for The Weizmann Institute Key Locating Engine, measures the light from the diodes to perform the mathematical calculations necessary to decrypt the keys. The computer, if built, would cost about $2 million, and could

jeopardize the security of the majority of electronic commerce underway today. Longer keys, with 1,024-bits, are now used for highly sensitive documents, but the most popular browsers used for transactions today are set for only 512 bits. (Wall Street Journal 16 Aug 99) http://wsj.com/

TIPTOEING THROUGH THE WEB Privada Inc. of San Jose, Calif., is offering a new service that allows users to make all of their Internet activities - e-mail, online chats, Web browsing and e-commerce transactions - completely anonymous. The Web Incognito service encrypts the data flowing from the subscriber's Internet service provider and masks its origins before sending it on to its intended destination. The service, which can be switched on and off by the user, also stores the subscriber's "cookies." Web Incognito differentiates itself from other privacy products in that it covers all Internet activities - not just Web browsing or e-mail - and has said it will share the identity of users with law enforcement authorities who have appropriate warrants. "Our service is for protecting the privacy of consumers, not for hiding criminals or criminal activities," says Privada CEO Barbara Bellissimo. "We felt it would be irresponsible not to give law enforcement agencies the information if they have valid warrants." (New York Times 16 Aug 99) http://www.nytimes.com/library/tech/99/08/biztech/articles/16data.html

BROADCOM'S 10-IN-1 NETWORKING CHIP Broadcom Corp. has developed a new networking chip that can perform tasks now handled by up to 10 separate chips. The StrataSwitch chip boasts 60 million transistors and is capable of analyzing the content of data transmissions and assigning higher priority to those packets containing voice and video. "What this represents is basically the world's first true switching system on a single chip," says the general manager of Broadcom's networking business unit. (Reuters/San Jose Mercury News 16 Aug 99) http://www.sjmercury.com/svtech/news/breaking/merc/docs/086415.htm

SBC TO OFFER E-MAIL-ONLY PHONE SERVICE [Not only SBC. . .so news says] SBC Communications plans a September launch for its new eMessage service – designed for people who want to communicate online, but don't want to use a computer to do it. The service will use a portable phone attachment that includes a keyboard and screen. The e-mail-only service marks the first time a major phone company has offered a service geared especially toward the "Internet appliance" market. The eMessage service will cost about $10 a month, and the device will sell for about $180 - about half the price of Web phones. (Los Angeles Times 19 Aug 99) http://www.latimes.com/HOME/BUSINESS/t000073861.html

NET ENEMIES LIST Reporters Sans Frontiers, a Paris-based organization that promotes press freedom, has compiled a Top-20 list of countries that severely

restrict citizens' access to information on the Internet. They are: Azerbaijan, Belarus, Burma, China, Cuba, Iran, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kirghizia, Libya, North Korea, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Syria, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Vietnam. Most of the countries named have state-owned Internet service providers that filter and censor Web sites for their citizens, and more repressive regimes, like Burma's, require computer owners to register with the government. A few, like North Korea and Iraq, have almost no Internet access at all. And in Saudi Arabia, the Internet is viewed as "a harmful force for Westernizing people's minds." (Investor's Business Daily 19 Aug 99) http://www.investors.com/

INSTANT MESSAGING Prodigy, Tribal Voice and PeopleLink have agreed to give their customers the ability to instantly exchange notes with the 1.3 million users of the Microsoft Network's instant message service. This accommodation with Microsoft is in stark contrast to the position taken by America Online, which has repeatedly counterattacked Microsoft's attempt to link its own service with AOL's to allow instant communication between Microsoft and AOL customers. (San Jose Mercury News 18 Aug 99) http://www.sjmercury.com/svtech/news/breaking/ap/docs/764802l.htm

JUDGE NIXES AOL TRADEMARK ATTEMPT A federal judge has rejected America Online's attempt to prohibit AT&T from using the terms "You have mail," "Buddy List," and "IM" on its WorldNet service. AOL had claimed that the words and phrases were trademarked. "We're pleased the court agreed that these terms are in the public domain - available for all to use," says AT&T General Counsel Jim Cicconi. "AOL's claim that it owns the everyday language of the Internet is another example of AOL's attempt to monopolize all aspects of services over the Internet." AOL says it will appeal the ruling and its general counsel is "confident that the ruling will be reversed." (Bloomberg News/Los Angeles Times 17 Aug 99) http://www.latimes.com/HOME/BUSINESS/t000073171.html

PRIVACY ADVOCATES COMPLAIN ABOUT AMAZON'S "FUN FEATURE" Amazon.com says its new "Purchase Circle" feature is "a fun way for people to find out what others are buying yet maintain individual confidentiality," but privacy advocates think it's a step in the wrong direction. The feature allows people to see what the most popular books are among Amazon patrons at any large organization; for example, "Memories of a Geisha" is now No. 1 at Charles Schwab, and "The End of Marketing As We Know It" at CocaCola. Web design expert Jacob Nielsen says, "From a privacy perspective, it's very scary. It's a true Big Brother phenomenon." The feature can not be used to learn what individuals are reading; the company only makes public reading profiles of groups that include at least several hundred individuals. [No inferences are drawn from the popularity of particular books

at particular institutions.] David Sobel of the Electronic Privacy Information Center says, “People don’t like the idea that their purchases are being turned into profiles, and they certainly don’t like the idea that information is turned over to third parties, even it it’s not personally identifiable.” (USA Today 26 Aug 99) http://www.usatoday.com/life/cyber/tech/ctf950.htm

ICANN AGAIN REJECTS REQUEST FOR INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIPS The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) has for the second time rejected a request for representation by a number of persons who own Internet domain names as individuals rather than as corporations or other organizations. ICANN, now meeting in Chile, has been accused of letting its decision-making activities be biased in the interests of large organizations that can afford to send their representatives all over the world. (New York Times Cybertimes 26 Aug 99) http://www.nytimes.com/library/tech/99/08/cyber/articles/26domain.html

FORTY MOVIES ON A SINGLE DISK Japan’s Science & Technology Agency and Sharp Corp. have developed a 12-inch (30.5 cm) memory disk that can store 200 gigabytes of data, which is enough to store 40 times more data than a digital video disk (DVD), or the equivalent of 40 two-hour movies. The new disk and disk drive will not be available commercially for at least three years. (San Jose Mercury News 26 Aug 99) http://www.sjmercury.com/svtech/news/breaking/merc/docs/011223.htm

PLAIN VANILLA INTERNET ACCESS Swedish ISP BIP Bottnia Internet Provider is giving Internet service away for free to customers who buy ice cream from Hemglass trucks. “All visitors to the Hemglass trucks will be able to pick up a free Internet subscription as a fun extra offer,” says the head of marketing at Hemglass. The company’s 200 trucks make 15,000 stops every day, reaching 90% of all Swedish households. (Bloomberg News/Los Angeles Times 26 Aug 99) http://www.latimes.com/HOME/BUSINESS/t000076061.html

LONDON FIRM CHALLENGES HACKERS London-based Global Market is offering $50,000 to anyone who can crack its high-security “1on1” service. The service includes a special feature called autoshredder, which allows users to order an e-mail message to delete itself from the recipient’s computer at a specified time, leaving no trace. “There are other companies offering security, not quite to the same extent as us, and not to the same level of security. Nobody else offers the self-destruct e-mail,” says Steven James, the company’s technical director. (Reuters 26 Aug 99) http://www.msnbc.com/news/304583.asp

AOL LAUNCHES FREE UK INTERNET SERVICE In an effort to squelch upstart

British rival Freeserve, America Online has launched its own subscription-free service in the U.K. Freeserve's free Internet access model has been copied by about 200 other service providers in the U.K. over the last year, causing British consumers to lose interest in subscription-based ISPs. In a further attempt to clone the Freeserve model, AOL Europe has linked with retail giant Kingfisher to distribute the free service. Freeserve uses parent company Dixons' outlets to sell its software. (Financial Times 25 Aug 99) http://www.ft.com/hippocampus/q14310a.htm

You have been reading excerpts from NewsScan Daily Underwritten by Arthur Andersen & IEEE Computer Society If you have questions or comments about NewsScan send e-mail to Editors@newsscan.com To subscribe or unsubscribe to NewsScan Daily, send an e-mail message to NewsScan@NewsScan.com with 'subscribe' or 'unsubscribe' in the subject line.

About the Project Gutenberg Newsletter: [Goes out approximately first Wednesday of each month. But different relays will get it to you at different times; you can subscribe directly, just send me email to find out how, or surf to promo.net/pg to subscribe directly by yourself.]

OCTOBER 1999

This is the Project Gutenberg Newsletter of Wednesday, October 6, 1999

Etexts Readable By Both Humans and Computers Since Before The Internet [Usually sent the first Wednesday of each month, delayed if by relay.] Main URL is promo.net Webmaster is Pietro di Miceli, of Rome, Italy *Check out our Websites at promo.net, and ask me for our FTP servers.*

Table of 1Contest:

Headline News

Requests For Assistance

Comments About Our New Files

Index Listings for the New Files

1Notess from Edupage and News Scan

Headline News

The "On-Line Books Page" allows you to search titles and authors of nearly 10,000 books on sites all over the Internet, including Project Gutenberg. Try

http://digital.library.upenn.edu/books/ This should have over 10,000 listings by the time you get there.

Requests

Some time ago, after a request made by Michael Hart, a few volunteers helped posting on PG the Spanish literature masterwork Don Quijote de la Mancha by Miguel de Cervantes. I think that this could be a good opportunity to continue posting etexts in Spanish but we need help from people wanting to volunteer. I do not have much time to dedicate to the effort alone, so I ask anyone wanting to help to contribute to contact Michael or myself in order to create a "stable" group (like the one that does German etexts, for example) on Spanish texts. Basically what we need is someone who has time enough to become a "leader" of the team (I can help a little if needed), proofers (to check scanned or already digitized texts) and/or searchers for copyright matters. We would appreciate any help on this. Jesus Joglar joglar@iiqab.csic.es

Publicity and Public Relations in the UK

Please let me know of any others who would be willing to team up and work on publicity/PR in the UK. Garry Gill gill@geography.nottingham.ac.uk

Is anyone within a hundred miles of Bridgeport, CT upgrading to a new computer in the next half year? I have someone out there who I am trying VERY hard to get on the Net, and this would be a GREAT! home for your current computer. . .will even pay. . . . Email me, and let me know the possibilities. . .it is for one of the nicest people I ever met. mh

**

Also - I have at http://www.pobox.com/~jimhenry/etext/

Jim Henry jimhenry@avana.net

an unfinished etext of Benjamin Thorpe's pd translation of the Elder Edda. I can't finish it because I've developed tendonitis & must minimize my typing. But it's there if any other Gutenberg volunteers want to tackle it.

**

We have a Balzac in French if anyone would like to work on it. Michael Crew arion@earthling.net, and please cc:me And we need someone to do French spellchecking.

Comments About Our New Files

This month we have completed our first draft of the Human Genome. If you have some interest in this area, we are working on a search program. . . to locate “conserved sequences/motifs” as well as specific genes. Also, if you would like to write an article about the Human Genome. . .or know anyone who would, or who would like to play with the program, email me.

We have also gotten back on track with our calendar. . .having completed the rather large extra tasks we set for ourselves a few months ago. You will notice [at least while I am writing this, that there are full month scheduled releases this month. . .and three from next month.

And Now Our List of Current Postings of More Project Gutenberg Etexts

Here is a listing of all the Etexts for both May AND June, 2000, and this time I left in the number I use for counting to make sure there are 36… since there are so many notes and comments. For those who actually count . . .which I hope SOME of you do. . .as I lost track at least once. . . .

We also have a few listings from collections we started/reserved previously:

Mar 2000 Carlyle’s “History of Friedrich II of Prussia V 12[12frdxxx.xxx]2112

[We have now posted 12 of the 21 volumes of this set]

May 2000 Misc Writings and Speeches, Lord Macaulay V4 of 4[4mwsmxxx.xxx]2170

[Volume 4 is not done yet at this time. . .] May 2000 Misc Writings and Speeches, Lord Macaulay V3 of 4[3mwsmxxx.xxx]2169

May 2000 Misc Writings and Speeches, Lord Macaulay V2 of 4[2mwsmxxx.xxx]2168

May 2000 Misc Writings and Speeches, Lord Macaulay V1 of 4[1mwsmxxx.xxx]2167

Mon Year Title and Author [filename.ext]#### *****A “C” Following a Project Gutenberg Etext Number Indicates Copyright****

36 Jun 2000 Sketches in Lavender, Blue and Green, by Jerome 20[sklbgxxx.xxx]2234

Jun 2000 A Damsel in Distress, by P.G. Wodehouse [PGW #3]

[dmsndxxx.xxx]2233

Jun 2000 Captain Stormfield, by Mark Twain [Mark Twain #17] [cptstxxx.xxx]2232

Jun 2000 All Roads Lead to Calvary, by Jerome K. Jerome #20[rdclvxxx.xxx]2231

32 Jun 2000 Faust: Der Tragoedie [Part 2] by Goethe[Goethe #8] [8fau2xxx.xxx]2230 *Jun 2000 Faust: Der Tragoedie [Part 2] by Goethe[Goethe #8][7fau2xxx.xxx]2230* Jun 2000 Faust: Der Tragoedie [Part 1] by Goethe[Goethe #7][8fau1xxx.xxx]2229 *Jun 2000 Faust: Der Tragoedie [Part 1] by Goethe[Goethe #7][7fau1xxx.xxx]2229* Jun 2000 Reineke Fuchs, by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe [#6][7fchsxxx.xxx]2228 *Jun 2000 Reineke Fuchs, by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe [#6][8fchsxxx.xxx]2228* German/Two versions/7-bit version without accents/8-bit version with accents.*

Jun 2000 Soldiers Three [Part II] by Rudyard Kipling[RK#11] [sldr3xxx.xxx]2227

This is “Part II” of Soldiers Three, we don’t have “Part I” and Contains: “LOVE-O’-WOMEN” - from “Many Inventions” THE BIG DRUNK DRAF’ THE MUTINY OF THE MAVERICKS THE MAN WHO WAS ONLY A SUBALTERN IN THE MATTER OF A PRIVATE THE LOST LEGION - from “Many Inventions” THE DRUMS OF THE FORE AND AFT JUDSON AND THE EMPIRE - from “Many Inventions” A CONFERENCE OF THE POWERS - from “Many Inventions” 28 Jun 2000 Kim, by Rudyard Kipling [Rudyard Kipling #10] [kimrkxxx.xxx]2226

Jun 2000 Captains Courageous, by Rudyard Kipling[Kipling#9] [cptcrxxx.xxx]2225

[This is independent of the version of Etext #2186, and we would LOVE if this could be compared to that version, and a better version of both created. Let me know via email of you would be willing to work on this. . .Michael. . . .] Bill Stoddard hscrr@vgernet.net,David Reed davidr@inconnect.com

[The following 24 files contain the ATGC codes from the Human Genome Project] We will be updating these as more data becomes available, but not every month Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Y Chromosome [#24] [0yhgpxxx.xxx]2224

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, X Chromosome [#23] [0xhgpxxx.xxx]2223

24 Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 22
[22hgpxxx.xxx]2222

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 21
[21hgpxxx.xxx]2221

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 20
[20hgpxxx.xxx]2220

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 19
[19hgpxxx.xxx]2219

20 Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 18
[18hgpxxx.xxx]2218

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 17
[17hgpxxx.xxx]2217

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 16
[16hgpxxx.xxx]2216

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 15
[15hgpxxx.xxx]2215

16 Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 14
[14hgpxxx.xxx]2214

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 13
[13hgpxxx.xxx]2213

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 12
[12hgpxxx.xxx]2212

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 11
[11hgpxxx.xxx]2211

12 Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 10
[10hgpxxx.xxx]2210

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 09
[19hgpxxx.xxx]2209

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 08
[08hgpxxx.xxx]2208

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 07

[07hgpxxx.xxx]2207

8 Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 06 [06hgpxxx.xxx]2206

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 05 [05hgpxxx.xxx]2205

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 04 [04hgpxxx.xxx]2204

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 03 [03hgpxxx.xxx]2203

4 Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 02 [02hgpxxx.xxx]2202

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, Chromosome Number 01 [01hgpxxx.xxx]2201

Jun 2000 Human Genome Project, About the Human Genome Files[0ahgpxxx.xxx]2200

[This file is reserved for information about the Human Genome Project Files.] Jun 2000 The Iliad, by Homer, translated by Samuel Butler [iliadxxx.xxx]2199

May 2000 Stories from Pentamerone, by Giambattista Basile [pntmnxxx.xxx]2198

May 2000 The Gambler, by Fyodor Dostoyevsky[Dostoyevsky #2] [gamblxxx.xxx]2197

May 2000 An Iceland Fisherman, by Pierre Loti [icfshxxx.xxx]2196

May 2000 The Master of Mrs. Chilvers by Jerome K. Jerome 19[mschlxxx.xxx]2195

32 May 2000 Mauprat, by George Sand [Aurore Dupin/Dedevant] #1[muprtxxx.xxx]2194

[Lucile Amandine Aurore Dupin / Armentine Lucile Aurore Dupin/later Dudevant] Also see: Jun 1994 Biography of George Sand, by Rene Doumic [sandb10x.xxx] 138 May 2000 A Ward of the Golden Gate, by Bret Harte[Harte #6][wotggxxx.xxx]2193

May 2000 The Dark Flower, by John Galsworthy [dkflrxxx.xxx]2192

May 2000 Boy Scouts in Mexico, by G. Harvey Ralphson [bsimxxxx.xxx]2191

28 May 2000 Isabella von Aegypten, by Ludwig Achim von Arnim [7isblxxx.xxx]2190 *May 2000 Isabella von Aegypten, by Ludwig Achim von Arnim [8isblxxx.xxx]2190* May 2000 Der Gwissenswurm, by Ludwig Anzengruber [German] [7gwssxxx.xxx]2189 *May 2000 Der Gwissenswurm, by Ludwig Anzengruber [German] [8gwssxxx.xxx]2189* May 2000 Aufzeichnungen des Malte Laurid Brigge, by Rilke [7maltxxx.xxx]2188 *May 2000 Aufzeichnungen des Malte Laurid Brigge, by Rilke [8maltxxx.xxx]2188* May 2000 Oberon, by Christoph Martin Wieland [In German] [7oberxxx.xxx]2187 *May 2000 Oberon, by Christoph Martin Wieland [In German] [8oberxxx.xxx]2187* German/Two versions/7-bit version without accents/8-bit version with accents.* 24 May 2000 Captains Courageous, by Rudyard Kipling[Kipling#9][cptcrxxx.xxx]2186

Bill Stoddard hscrr@vgernet.net

This Project Gutenberg Etext prepared by Bill Stoddard hscrr@vgernet.net [This will still need some serious proofreading, which will not be easy,^M given the unusual spellings and language. Please cc: hart@pobox.com]^M

May 2000 Maruja, by Bret Harte [Bret Harte #5][hllhlxxx.xxx]2185

May 2000 Unbeaten Tracks in Japan, by Isabella L. Bird [utrkjxxx.xxx]2184

May 2000 Three Men on the Bummel, by Jerome K. Jerome [#18] [tmotbxxx.xxx]2183

20 May 2000 The Marble Faun V. 2, by Nathaniel Hawthorne[NH#9] [2faunxxx.xxx]2182* [This one is almost ready, but not quite. . .will be online next week I hope] May 2000 The Marble Faun V. 1, by Nathaniel Hawthorne[NH#8][1faunxxx.xxx]2181

May 2000 In A Hollow Of The Hills, by Bret Harte [Harte #5] [hllhlxxx.xxx]2180

May 2000 Drift from Two Shores, by Bret Harte [Harte #4[[dftshxxx.xxx]2179

16 May 2000 By Shore and Sedge, by Bret Harte [Bret Harte #3] [bysnsxxx.xxx]2178

May 2000 Thankful Blossom, by Bret Harte [Bret Harte #2]

[tkfblxxx.xxx]2177

May 2000 Seven Discourses on Art, by Joshua Reynolds [artdsxxx.xxx]2176

May 2000 You Never Can Tell, by [George] Bernard Shaw [#7] [nvrctxxx.xxx]2175

12 May 2000 Frau und Kindern auf der Spur, by Gerold K. Rohner[8spurxxx.xxx]2174C May 2000 Frau und Kindern auf der Spur, by Gerold K. Rohner[7spurxxx.xxx]2174C German/Two versions/7-bit version without accents/8-bit version with accents.*

May 2000 Thoughts on Present Discontents, etc., by Burke [thdscxxx.xxx]2173

May 2000 That Mainwaring Affair, by Maynard Barbour [mnwrnxxx.xxx]2172

May 2000 Brother Jacob, by George Eliot [George Eliot #5] [brjcbxxx.xxx]2171

8 May 2000 Misc Writings and Speeches, Lord Macaulay V4 of 4[4mwsmxxx.xxx]2170* [Volume 4 is not done yet at this time. . .] May 2000 Misc Writings and Speeches, Lord Macaulay V3 of 4[3mwsmxxx.xxx]2169

May 2000 Misc Writings and Speeches, Lord Macaulay V2 of 4[2mwsmxxx.xxx]2168

May 2000 Misc Writings and Speeches, Lord Macaulay V1 of 4[1mwsmxxx.xxx]2167

4 May 2000 King Solomon's Mines, by H. Rider Haggard [HRH #9] [7kslmxxx.xxx]2166

May 2000 King Solomon's Mines, by H. Rider Haggard [HRH #9] [8kslmxxx.xxx]2166

Two versions, 7-bit version without accents, 8-bit version with accents.
May 2000 The Lifted Veil, by George Eliot [George Eliot #4] [lftvlxxx.xxx]2165

May 2000 The Lumley Autograph Susan Fenimore Cooper[SFC#2] [lumlyxxx.xxx]2164

May 2000 The Bridge-Builders, by Mark Twain[Mark Twain #16]

[brdgbxxx.xxx]2163

**And a few for next month, of course:

Aug 2000 How to Live on 24 Hours a Day, by Arnold Bennett [24hrsxxx.xxx]2274

Aug 2000 Not Ready Yet, Sorry. . .Michael [xxx.xxx]2273

Aug 2000 The Discovery of Guiana, by Walter Raleigh WR#3] [guianxxx.xxx]2272

Aug 2000 He Fell In Love With His Wife, by Edward P. Roe [inlhwxxx.xxx]2271

NEW HANDHELD COMPUTER TO COMPETE AGAINST PALMPILOT The creators of the PalmPilot handheld computer, who left their former company to form a new one called Handspring, are about to compete against the PalmPilot. Called “Visor,” their new device will be sold in modular versions starting at $149 and will be aimed at both the consumer and office markets. Various modules will enable the Visor to work as a digital camera, music player, pager, and wireless telephone. (Reuters/New York Times 10 Sep 99) http://www.nytimes.com/library/tech/99/09/biztech/articles/10handspring.html

BRITISH TELECOM OFFERS FREE PCs British Telecom has become the first U.K. Internet service provider to offer customers a free personal computer as part of its BT Internet PC package. The package, which costs 25.99 British pounds a month, also includes installation, training, and free weekend ISP connections. At the end of three years, customers will own their Fujitsu PC. BT says its new service will cost less than 90p a day, and noted that the free weekend connections would eliminate the potential problem of children running up phone bills during peak Internet usage times. (Associated Newspapers Ltd. 14 Sep 99) www.thisislondon.co.uk/dynamic/new… reviewid=177834&inreviewtextid=143513

WRITERS WIN INTERNET COPYRIGHT SUIT IN CHINA In the first case of its kind in China, a group of six prominent writers has been awarded compensatory damages for having their work published without their permission. The court ruled that Century Internet Communications Technology Co. had violated the writers’ copyrights by putting their works on Beijing Online’s Web site. The writers will receive anywhere from 720 yuan ($87) to 12,380 yuan (about $1,480) each. (Reuters/San Jose Mercury News 22 Sep 99) http://www.sjmercury.com/

FREELANCERS' PERMISSION NEEDED TO POST ELECTRONICALLY A federal appeals-court panel has ruled that publishers must receive permission from freelance writers, musicians, photographers and artists before putting their material online or onto CD-ROMs, and must pay them extra compensation for the privilege unless otherwise contractually negotiated. The original suit was filed in 1993 by six writers who accused several media companies, including the New York Times, Time Warner's Sports Illustrated, Times Mirror's Newsday, and Reed-Elsevier's Lexis/Nexis database, of copyright infringement for reproducing their work online without permission. A federal court judge in 1997 sided with the publishers, saying that electronic databases are simply revised versions of original publications and that copyright law doesn't require extra payment by publishers. The appeals-court panel on Friday found that databases differ significantly because they contain thousands or millions of individual articles that can be retrieved without reference to the original publication. Most media companies today require "all rights" contracts, which explicitly include electronic reproduction, but the real problem for media organizations, says attorney Bruce Keller, is what should be done about articles written during the 20 years prior to this case. (Wall Street Journal 28 Sep 99)

PHONES OUTNUMBER UMBRELLAS IN LOST-AND-FOUND Londoners are leaving up to 45 mobile phones on buses and trains every day – outnumbering the number of umbrellas left behind for the first time ever. According to Maureen Beaumont, manager of London Transport's lost property office, the number of handsets being turned in is up sharply: "It's just creeping up and up and up. It was just 30 a day a couple of months ago. Now we're up to 40 or 45 a day." This year so far, there are 4,000 abandoned phones waiting to be claimed, but because many users have insurance policies that replace their phones within a few days, most of the misplaced handsets are just left in the lost property office for the requisite six months. "After that we can sell them as a piece of hardware – we just dispose of the sim card," says Beaumont. (Financial Times 27 Sep 99) http://www.ft.com/hippocampus/q181aba.htm

WIRED CITIES An Ohio State University study has identified the 20 "most Internet-accessible" U.S. cities: 1, Washington, DC; 2, Chicago; 3, Dallas; 4, New York; 5, Atlanta; 6, San Jose; 7, Los Angeles; 8, Houston; 9, San Francisco; 10, Phoenix; 11, Boston; 12, Seattle; 13, Philadelphia; 14, St. Louis; 15, Denver; 16, Baltimore; 17, Minneapolis; 18, Palo Alto; 19, Detroit; 20, Santa Clara. The authors say, "In general, cities with more linkages to the Internet backbone will have faster access and more reliable connections to global information. This enhanced access results in a comparative advantage that will grow in importance with the continuing computerization of information." (Newsbytes News Network/USA Today 24 Sep 99) http://

www.usatoday.com/life/cyber/nb/nb5.htm

MICROSOFT'S IE5 REELING AGAIN AFTER TWO NEW BUGS DISCOVERED Experts this week found two new security bugs that affect Microsoft's Internet Explorer 5 (IE5) browser. Security expert Georgi Guninski discovered one spoofing glitch that would give hackers access to data on IE5 even through a firewall. The bug would allow an HTML JavaScript to activate once a user visits a Web site, and then download files back to the user's computer. Since the files are downloaded from the computer back to itself rather than to another machine, firewalls do not prevent the attack. After the information has been downloaded back to the original computer, it can be sent to any IP address. Microsoft is now working on a patch, and suggests in the meantime that concerned users disable IE5's active scripting. A second bug, confirmed this week by BugNet and its parent company KeyLabs, would allow IE5's rendering engine to alter HTML tags. HTML tags could change when users working with IE5 and Microsoft's MSHTML editing and rendering engine use the "Web Page, complete" default setting. Microsoft is working to repair the problem, and suggests for now that users rely on the "Web Page, HTML only" setting. (InfoWorld Electric 09/29/99)

You have been reading excerpts from NewsScan Daily Underwritten by Arthur Andersen & IEEE Computer Society If you have questions or comments about NewsScan send e-mail to Editors@newsscan.com To subscribe or unsubscribe to NewsScan Daily, send an e-mail message to NewsScan@NewsScan.com with 'subscribe' or 'unsubscribe' in the subject line.

STUDY: HIGH COST FOR WINDOWS 2000 TRANSITION The migration costs of Microsoft's Windows 2000 are so high that companies implementing the operating system would be unlikely to see a return on investment for at least three years, according to a recent Gartner Group study. The report indicates that the migration cost for Windows 2000 could amount to as much as $3,100 per PC. Gartner vice president Michael Gartenberg says by the time a company would see a return on Windows 2000, it would be time to switch to another operating system. Microsoft has advertised Windows 2000 as offering "increased reliability, availability, and scalability with end-to-end management features that reduce operating costs." Microsoft studies indicate companies migrating to Windows 2000 will see benefits immediately. Microsoft concedes that migration can be expensive, but says Windows 2000 can significantly reduce operating costs by streamlining help-desk operations, improving PC manageability, and offering businesses greater control over software applications. (C|Net 09/09/99)

[For those of you who really think there are TERABYTE cables out there,

please note how this 4 GIGABYTE cable is referred to being so large mh]

CUT IN FIBER CABLE DISRUPTS INTERNET TRAFFIC NATIONWIDE Internet traffic throughout the country was slowed dramatically yesterday after a fiber cable was cut. A gas company in Ohio inadvertently cut the cable with a backhoe at about noon yesterday. Traffic between the East and West Coasts was as much as 50 times slower than usual. Some companies experienced so much trouble that they had no choice but to close down. Although fiber cuts occur occasionally, a cut to such a large cable is unusual, according to Bill Woodcock, a network architect for regional ISP Zocalo. The cable was transmitting 40 billion bits per second. Traffic that would usually move through the cable was rerouted, but the congestion that resulted slowed data moving through other network segments. GTE, which owned segments of the cut cable, said last night that the cable would probably be fixed by 9 p.m. (New York Times 09/30/99)

EXPERTS FEAR AN OUTBREAK OF Y2K VIRUSES Computer security experts are concerned about a possible outbreak of Y2K viruses after two Y2K-related viruses appeared last week. Experts say Y2K hoaxes, viruses that are spread via Y2K-remediation software, and viruses designed to first appear on January 1, 2000, are among the dangers associated with the beginning of the new millennium. A new “Trojan Horse” virus appeared last week in the guise of an e-mail offering a free year 2000 countdown clock. Once activated, the virus enters the computer’s Internet connection to gain access to the user’s passwords and account numbers. The other virus appearing last week, called W32/Fix2001, arrives as a note from the “system administrator” and claims to provide software for fixing a Y2K Internet problem. If launched, the virus will attach itself to all future e-mail transmissions. Although experts say both viruses are not considered major threats, future viruses could be. (San Francisco Chronicle 09/20/99)

BRITISH PUBLISHER PUTS BOOKS ONLINE Dorling Kindersley, a educational book and CD-ROM publisher, says it’s planning to put all of its material online, allowing customers to view entire books online before they decide whether to purchase. The move signals the bookseller’s attempt to replicate the experience of shopping in a bricks-and-mortar bookstore: “People want to be able to look inside books just as they would in a store,” says Alan Buckingham, managing director of Dorling Kindersley Online. The company hopes to have 10% of its holdings online by January. Executive Chairman Peter Kindersley acknowledges that customers could print out the pages they need rather than buy the entire text, but says that risk is small in comparison to the benefits of brand awareness: “It is highly unlikely someone will print out a whole book because the cost of printer cartridges is extremely high.” (Financial Times 15 Sep 99) http://www.ft.com/hippocampus/

q15aeee6.htm

You have been reading excerpts from Edupage: If you have questions or comments about Edupage, send e-mail to: edupage@educause.edu To SUBSCRIBE to Edupage, send a message to LISTSERV@LISTSERV.EDUCAUSE.EDU and in the body of the message type: SUBSCRIBE Edupage YourFirstName YourLastName

Mac users can download our .txt files in binary mode to avoid the double spacing cr/lf line ends creates. Or download the .zip files, which unzip properly for nearly any operating system they are unzipped for…

About the Project Gutenberg Newsletter: [Goes out approximately first Wednesday of each month. But different relays will get it to you at different times; you can subscribe directly, just send me email to find out how, or surf to promo.net/pg to subscribe directly by yourself.]

NOVEMBER 1999

This is Project Gutenberg's Newsletter for Wednesday, November 3, 1999

Etexts Readable By Both Humans and Computers Since Before The Internet [Usually sent the first Wednesday of each month, delayed if by relay.] Main URL is promo.net Webmaster is Pietro di Miceli, of Rome, Italy *Check out our Websites at promo.net, and ask me for our FTP servers.*

This message contains index listings for about 75 newly released books

This is double the usual number we were scheduled to release, but with a GREAT effort by Kimber85 we have managed to complete the Shakespeare just in time for inclusion in this Newsletter. . .THANKS, KIM!!!!!!!

Table of 1Contest:

Headline News

Requests For Assistance

Comments About Our New Files

Index Listings for the New Files

1Notess from Edupage and News Scan

Headline News

I just finished watching Biography's "100 Most Influential People of the Millennium" and our dear Mr. Gutenberg was #1!!! No question - good choice. Thought you might like to know - on behalf of all us Gutenbergers! From: Hoost0811@aol.com

"Just got the Nov. 8 issue of TIME Magazine today focused on the 21st century. And I was delighted to see Michael Hart profiled as a visionary in People to Watch' on p. 14." From Richard Seltzer ["People To Watch" is a new column in TIME, we made the top of their list, chosen as to lead off what they hope will be a permanent feature.]

We should also be the cover story for the Chicago Tribune Sunday Supplement on November 21st. . .this article has been in progress since March and they say it should be the best one of these they have done in well over a year. We shall see, eh?

Given that we are today releasing about 75 new Etexts, we are now approaching being 10 months ahead of schedule. . .our current goal is to get to 12 months . . .actually 12 1/2 months. . .ahead of schedule by the end of 2001, to have 3,333 Project Gutenberg Etexts online at that time. . .about 1/3 of that goal we originally started with. . .but. . .that goal also included a prediction I made that the other Etext producers would be happy to put their public domain Etexts on our servers and help us do the appropriate copyright research. The truth is that one of the things we need is a liaison person to coordinate our efforts with the handful of other major Etext producers so we can provide the 10,000 Etexts now available in a proper manner through our worldwide servers. So, if you are the kind of person who can do this, please. . .let us know!!!

Requests For Assistance

Ben Harper rogajin@hotmail.com Requests: Purchas his Pilgrimages, by Samuel Purchas [~1614]

If indeed you have some kind of funding to ship over as precious a thing as that book, I'd gladly be it's honored preserver. I bought myself a scanner just today!

Comments About Our New Files

First a correction to an earlier comment:

I chose it because my goal was to change the way information is passed from person to person as much as Johannes Gutenberg did. He reduced the price of books to 1/400th of their previous cost which was equal to that of the

average family farm beforehand!! Now you can buy a 25G hard drive for $300. . .and you **could** put 5 thousand copies of the Complete Works of Shakespeare on a drive like that, without compression. . .that's 6 cents a copy! There are terabyte drive packs on the way, that will cost less, and will hold just about every word in even a *large* library!! It will not so many of these to hold the Library of Congress!!! I have heard estimates from 2 to 20 terabytes. . .but when such terabytes are as common as gigabytes are now. . .who will care?

Comments About Our New Files

We lead off this Newsletter Index with Uncle Remus, in honor of the movie "Song of the South". . .which has been removed from a circulating feature [I think by Disney] because of "politically incorrect" catcalls from certain political action committees.

Millions of students saw this movie as "required viewing" in an era before this kind of political pressure, but which had an entirely different "politically incorrect" venue known as:

"The McCarthy Era Witch Hunts"

which didn't seem to be have the kind of power now wielded by a wide range of groups who could be called politically incorrect, themselves. Rewriting history, particularly history that was a "staple" in our educational system, is totally incorrect. I do understand that in any history there are events and values that should not be passed on but neither should they be passed over. By pretending these things never happened we do NOT encourage a proper perspective, either by these committees, or on the parts of the people more directly involved.

Meanwhile, our German Team continues to amaze me. . . .

Several more additions are listed below, and more on the way!!

I hope they are an inspiration to those considering helping us do Etexts in other languages. . .it took us forever to get the German Team rolling, and now. . .fantastic. . .please help get us rolling with other languages!!!

Index Listings for the New Files

Aug 2000 Uncle Remus/Songs/Sayings, by Joel Chandler Harris[remusxxx.xxx]2306

Aug 2000 A Set of Six, by Joseph Conrad [Joseph Conrad #24]

[seto6xxx.xxx]2305

We have two versions: seto610.* and seto610m.* [markup with accents]. . . . Please let us know which you prefer. . . Aug 2000 Legends and Lyrics, Pt 2, by Adelaide Ann Proctor [lgly2xxx.xxx]2304

Aug 2000 Legends and Lyrics, Pt 1, by Adelaide Ann Proctor [lgly1xxx.xxx]2303

Aug 2000 Poor Folk, by Fyodor Dostoyevsky [Dostoyevsky #3] [prflkxxx.xxx]2302

Aug 2000 A Simpleton, by Charles Reade [smptnxxx.xxx]2301

Aug 2000 The Descent of Man, by Charles Darwin [Darwin #7] [dscmnxxx.xxx]2300

Aug 2000 Pandora, by Henry James [Henry James #21][pndraxxx.xxx]2299

Aug 2000 Sketch Book of Geoffrey Crayon, Gent, by Irving #6[sbogcxxx.xxx]2298

Aug 2000 Snow-Bound at Eagle's, by Bret Harte [Harte #12] [sbdaexxx.xxx]2297

Aug 2000 Pillars of Society, by Henrik Ibsen[Henrik Ibsen2] [pllrsxxx.xxx]2296

Aug 2000 Waifs and Strays, etc, by O Henry Pt 1[O Henry #8] [1waifxxx.xxx]2295

Contains: The Red Roses of Tonia Round The Circle The Rubber Plant's Story Out of Nazareth Confessions of a Humorist The Sparrows in Madison Square Hearts and Hands The Cactus The Detective Detector The Dog and the Playlet A Little Talk About Mobs The Snow Man

(Two were unavailable- pages torn from book) [If you can help. . .] IN THE TROLLEY CAR RUTH BALDWIN CHENERY IN IRISH RAIN MARTHA HASKELL CLARK

Aug 2000 Anthol. Massachusetts Poets/William S. Braithwaite[mpoetxxx.xxx]2294

Aug 2000 A New England Girlhood[Beverly, MA] by Lucy Larcom[grlhdxxx.xxx]2293

Aug 2000 Yet Again, by Max Beerbohm [Max Beerbohm #8] [ytagnxxx.xxx]2292

Aug 2000 Yet Again, by Max Beerbohm[HTML] [Max Beerbohm #8] [ytagnxxh.xxx]2292

Aug 2000 David Elginbrod, by George MacDonald[Scottish][#7] [lgnbdxxx.xxx]2291

Aug 2000 Twenty-Two Goblins, Translated from the Sanskrit [22gblxxx.xxx]2290

Aug 2000 Rosmersholm, by Henrik Ibsen [Henrik Ibsen #1] [rsmrhxxx.xxx]2289

Aug 2000 Through Russia, by Maxim Gorky [Maxim Gorky #2] [trussxxx.xxx]2288

Aug 2000 Havoc, by E. Philips Oppenheim[E. P. Oppenheim #9] [havocxxx.xxx]2287

Aug 2000 Devil's Ford by, Bret Harte [Bret Harte #11][dvlfdxxx.xxx]2286

Aug 2000 Ridgway of Montana, by William MacLeod Raine [#4] [rdgwyxxx.xxx]2285

Aug 2000 Animal Heroes, by Ernest Thompson Seton [Seton #2] [anhroxxx.xxx]2284

Aug 2000 The Lost Road, etc, by Richard Harding Davis [#30] [lstrdxxx.xxx]2283

Contains: THE LOST ROAD THE MIRACLE OF LAS PALMAS EVIL TO HIM WHO EVIL THINKS THE MEN OF ZANZIBAR THE LONG ARM THE GOD OF COINCIDENCE THE BURIED TREASURE OF COBRE THE BOY SCOUT SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE THE DESERTER

Aug 2000 Tales for Fifteen, by J. F. Cooper as Jane Morgan [tl415xxx.xxx]2282

Aug 2000 Imagination and Heart, by James F. Cooper [JFC #4] [tl415xxx.xxx]2282

Aug 2000 The Heritage of Dedlow Marsh etc, by Bret Harte 11[dedloxxx.xxx]2281

Contains: THE HERITAGE OF DEDLOW MARSH A KNIGHT-ERRANT OF THE FOOT-HILLS A SECRET OF TELEGRAPH HILL CAPTAIN JIM'S FRIEND

Aug 2000 A Millionaire of Rough-and-Ready, by Bret Harte 10[amrnrxxx.xxx]2280

Aug 2000 A Waif of the Plains, by Bret Harte[Bret Harte #9] [awotpxxx.xxx]2279

Aug 2000 New Burlesques, by Bret Harte [Bret Harte #8] [nbrlqxxx.xxx]2278

CONTAINS: RUPERT THE RESEMBLER [After Rupert of Hentzau and Prisoner of Zenda] Also see: Dec 1997 Rupert of Hentzau, by Anthony Hope #3 [rprhnxxx.xxx]1145

Dec 1993 The Prisoner of Zenda, by Anthony Hope[zenda10x.xxx] 95 THE STOLEN CIGAR CASE By A. CO–N D–LE GOLLY AND THE CHRISTIAN, OR THE MINX AND THE MANXMAN By H–LL C–NE THE ADVENTURES OF JOHN LONGBOWE, YEOMAN BEING A MODERN-ANTIQUE REALISTIC ROMANCE (COMPILED FROM SEVERAL EMINENT SOURCES) DAN'L BOREM BY E. N–S W–T–T STORIES THREE BY R–DY–D K–PL–G "ZUT-SKI" THE PROBLEM OF A WICKED FEME SOLE BY M–R–E C–R–LLI

Aug 2000 Condensed Novels, by Bret Harte [Bret Harte #7] [cndnsxxx.xxx]2277

HANDSOME IS AS HANDSOME DOES LOTHOW, or THE ADVENTURES OF A YOUNG GENTLEMAN IN SEARCH OF A RELIGION MUCK-A-MUCK, A MODERN INDIAN NOVEL, AFTER JAMES FENIMORE COOPER TERENCE DENVILLE SELINA SEDILIA THE NINETY-NINE GUARDSMEN [AFTER THE THREE MUSKETEERS, BY DUMAS] MISS MIX [AFTER CHARLOTTE BRONTE] GUY HEAVYSTONE; OR, "ENTIRE." MR. MIDSHIPMAN BREEZY JOHN JENKINS; OR, THE SMOKER REFORMED NO TITLE [AFTER WILKE COLLINS] Contains: MARY JONES'S NARRATIVE THE SLIM YOUNG MAN'S STORY NO. 27 LIMEHOUSE ROAD COUNT MOSCOW'S NARRATIVE DR. DIGGS'S STATEMENT

MARY MCGILLUP, A SOUTHERN NOVEL, AFTER BELLE BOYD

Aug 2000 Confessions of A Justified Sinner, by James Hogg [pmfjsxxx.xxx]2276

[Entire title: The Private Memoirs and Confessions of A Justified Sinner] Aug 2000 The Pioneers, by James Fenimore Cooper [Cooper#3]

[tpnrsxxx.xxx]2275

Aug 2000 How to Live on 24 Hours a Day, by Arnold Bennett
[24hrsxxx.xxx]2274

Aug 2000 Tom Swift And His Motor-Boat, by Victor Appleton
[02tomxxx.xxx]2273

Not on archive Aug 2000 The Discovery of Guiana, by Walter Raleigh WR#3]
[guianxxx.xxx]2272

Aug 2000 He Fell In Love With His Wife, by Edward P. Roe
[inlhwxxx.xxx]2271

And a few for next month. . .

Sep 2000 Droll Stories [V. 2], by Honore de Balzac[HdB #91]
[2drllxxx.xxx]2318

Sep 2000 The Story of My Heart, by Richard Jefferies [tsomhxxx.xxx]2317

Sep 2000 The Choir Invisible, by James Lane Allen [chrnvxxx.xxx]2316

Sep 2000 The Flag-Raising, by Kate Douglas Wiggin[Wiggin14]
[flgrsxxx.xxx]2315

Sep 2000 Geschichte des Agathon, Teil 2, by C M Wieland #3
[82agtxxx.xxx]2314

Sep 2000 Geschichte des Agathon, Teil 2, by C M Wieland #3
[72agtxxx.xxx]2314

^^^This 7-bit version is not ready at the time the Newsletter is going out^^^ Sep 2000 Geschichte des Agathon, Teil 1, by C M Wieland #2
[81agtxxx.xxx]2313

Sep 2000 Geschichte des Agathon, Teil 1, by C M Wieland #2
[71agtxxx.xxx]2313

Sep 2000 Hermann und Dorothea, by Goethe [German 8-bits]
#9[8hermxxx.xxx]2312

Sep 2000 Hermann und Dorothea, by Goethe [German 7-bits]
#9[7hermxxx.xxx]2312

German/Two versions/7-bit version without accents/8-bit version with

accents. Sep 2000 Travels through France & Italy, by Tobias Smollett[ttfaixxx.xxx]2311

Sep 2000 In The Carquinez Woods, by Bret Harte [Harte #13] [crqnzxxx.xxx]2310

Sep 2000 The Freelands, by John Galsworthy [Galsworthy #2] [frndsxxx.xxx]2309

Sep 1999 Bunyan Characters (3rd Series), by Alex. Whyte #3 [3bnchxxx.xxx]2308

Sep 2000 The Depot Master, by Joseph C. Lincoln [dpmstxxx.xxx]2307

and we have the individual play files for our Shakespeare First Folio:

Jul 2000 The Complete Shakespeare's First Folio [35 Plays] [00ws1xxx.xxx]2270

Jul 2000 Cymbeline, by Wm. Shakespeare [First Folio] = [FF] [0ws39xxx.xxx]2269

Jul 2000 Anthony and Cleopater, by Wm. Shakespeare [FF] [0ws35xxx.xxx]2268

Jul 2000 Othello, by William Shakespeare [FF][0ws32xxx.xxx]2267

Jul 2000 King Lear, by William Shakespeare [FF][0ws33xxx.xxx]2266

Jul 2000 Hamlet, by William Shakespeare [FF][0ws26xxx.xxx]2265

Jul 2000 Macbeth, by William Shakespeare [FF][0ws34xxx.xxx]2264

Jul 2000 Julius Caesar, by William Shakespeare [FF][0ws24xxx.xxx]2263

Jul 2000 Timon of Athens, by William Shakespeare [FF][0ws37xxx.xxx]2262

Jul 2000 Romeo and Juliet, by William Shakespeare [FF] [0ws16xxx.xxx]2261

Jul 2000 Titus Andronicus, by William Shakespeare [FF][0ws09xxx.xxx]2260

Jul 2000 Coriolanus, by William Shakespeare [FF][0ws36xxx.xxx]2259

Jul 2000 Henry VIII, by William Shakespeare [FF][0ws42xxx.xxx]2258

Jul 2000 Richard III, by William Shakespeare [FF][0ws04xxx.xxx]2257

Jul 2000 Henry VI Part 3, by William Shakespeare [FF][0ws03xxx.xxx]2256

Jul 2000 Henry VI Part 2, by William Shakespeare [FF][0ws02xxx.xxx]2255

Jul 2000 Henry VI Part 1, by William Shakespeare [FF][0ws01xxx.xxx]2254

Jul 2000 Henry V, by William Shakespeare [FF][0ws23xxx.xxx]2253

Jul 2000 Henry IV Part 2, by William Shakespeare [FF][0ws21xxx.xxx]2252

Jul 2000 Henry IV Part 1, by William Shakespeare [FF][0ws19xxx.xxx]2251

Jul 2000 Richard II, by William Shakespeare [FF][0ws15xxx.xxx]2250

Jul 2000 King John, by William Shakespeare [FF][0ws14xxx.xxx]2249

Jul 2000 The Winters Tale, by William Shakespeare [FF][0ws40xxx.xxx]2248

Jul 2000 Twelfe-Night, by William Shakespeare [FF][0ws28xxx.xxx]2247

Jul 2000 All is well, that Ends well, by Shakespeare [FF][0ws30xxx.xxx]2246

Jul 2000 The Taming of the Shrew, by Wm. Shakespeare [FF] [0ws10xxx.xxx]2245

Jul 2000 As you Like it, by William Shakespeare [FF][0ws25xxx.xxx]2244

Jul 2000 The Merchant of Venice, by Wm. Shakespeare [FF] [0ws18xxx.xxx]2243

Jul 2000 Midsummer Nights Dreame, by Wm. Shakespeare [FF] [0ws17xxx.xxx]2242

Jul 2000 Loves Labour Lost, by William Shakespeare [FF] [0ws12xxx.xxx]2241

Jul 2000 Much adoo about Nothing, by Wm. Shakespeare [FF] [0ws22xxx.xxx]2240

Jul 2000 The Comedy of Errours , by Wm. Shakespeare [FF] [0ws06xxx.xxx]2239

Jul 2000 Measure for Measure, by William Shakespeare [FF] [0ws31xxx.xxx]2238

Jul 2000 The Merry Wives of Windsor, by Shakespeare [FF] [0ws20xxx.xxx]2237

Jul 2000 The Two Gentlemen of Verona, by Shakespeare [FF] [0ws11xxx.xxx]2236

Jul 2000 The Tempest, by William Shakespeare [FF][0ws41xxx.xxx]2235

1Notess from Edupage and News Scan

FCC CHAIR TO WORLDCOM: NOT SO FAST THERE A statement by Federal Communications Commission chairman William E. Kennard indicates that MCI WorldCom may have some difficulty getting FCC approval of its $129-billion acquisition of Sprint: “Competition has produced a price war in the long-distance market. This merger appears to be a surrender. How can this be good for customers? The parties will bear a heavy burden to show how consumers would be better off.” (Washington Post 6 Oct 99) jhttp:// www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/business/daily/oct99/mci6.htm

The Vergil group, one of several “collective self-study” Latin groups on latin@lists.colorado.edu, is currently translating the *Aeneid* from Latin into English at the rate of 30-35 lines a week, using the PG text. Participants translate each week’s assignments, and then have the opportunity to compare their translations with other participants’ work. For more information, contact Meredith Dixon dixonm@access.mountain.net

Not many notable stories this month. . .sorry. . . . Unless you count TIME and the Trib. . .hee hee mh

You have been reading excerpts from NewsScan Daily Underwritten by Arthur Andersen & IEEE Computer Society If you have questions or comments about NewsScan send e-mail to Editors@newsscan.com To subscribe or unsubscribe to NewsScan Daily, send an e-mail message to NewsScan@NewsScan.com with ‘subscribe’ or ‘unsubscribe’ in the subject line.

Mac users can download our .txt files in binary mode to avoid the double spacing cr/lf line ends creates. Or download the .zip files, which unzip properly for nearly any operating system they are unzipped for…

About the Project Gutenberg Newsletter: [Goes out approximately first Wednesday of each month. But different relays will get it to you at different times; you can subscribe directly, just send me email to find out how, or surf to promo.net/pg to subscribe directly by yourself.]

DECEMBER 1999

This is Project Gutenberg’s Newsletter for Thursday, December 19, 1998

[Usually sent the first Wednesday of each month, delayed if by relay.] Main URL is promo.net Webmaster is Pietro di Miceli, of Rome, Italy

We have the 36 Etext for May, 1999 pretty much ready for you, and some new Shakespeare files, though BEWARE!. . .the filenames or numbers may change over the next month or so. . .I haven't quite yet figured out a whole strategy for working with what the mice played with while I went on vacation. . .a vacation I am certainly glad to be back from. It is odd to say, but everything when pretty much the opposite as expected– I had a great time in LA accepting the WIRED 25 "Oscar" on behalf of a thousand Project Gutenberg volunteers, and did all I was asked to do & and bit more at the party. . .[I was indeed the "life of the party."]

As I often try to do, we have managed some new Shakespeare to honor my father, who died 9 years ago today, and for whom I try to do some work on this day each year, as well as to light a candle for him. I have a GREAT BIG THANK YOU to our Shakespeare Team for getting this ready for today, you will see THOUSANDS of corrections in these new files!!! My father was a great Shakespeare professor, who instilled in me and many others a great feeling for the classics, in literature, music and art.

This one's for you, Dad!

A note from our US Director of Production, Dianne Bean:

Working on a reasonable-sized-print book, water damaged at the bottom: Testing Omnipage 9 on it and there's a HUGE difference between this and Textbridge–they improved the OCR so it's better by a mile than Textbridge, no longer even close…I'm only picking up 1 or 2 errors on a page; where the pages are a little warped at the bottom, TB was making an awful garble, but OP sails right through! And it hasn't crashed yet.

I will be meeting with Lawrence Lessig of Harvard, who apparently is the one the Supreme Court of the US chose to teach them about computers, and about the Internet. We will be planning the lawsuit to challenge all of the new copyright extensions we tried so hard to keep from becoming law. He has asked for some serious volunteers who would also like to sue; the cases are more secure when there are several plaintiffs, not just one.

Just email me if you are interested. I meet with him Monday. We should also like to receive any points you would like included in the suit, and we would like these whether or not you are willing to be a plaintiff.

And here are the books!

May 1999 Billy and the Big Stick, by R. H. Davis [#17][bbstkxxx.xxx]1764

May 1999 The Nature Faker, by Richard Harding Davis [#16] [ntrfkxxx.xxx]1763

May 1999 The Consul, by Richard Harding Davis [RH Davis#15] [tcnslxxx.xxx]1762

May 1999 My Buried Treasure, by Richard Harding Davis [#14] [mbtrsxxx.xxx]1761

May 1999 The Man Who Could Not Lose, by R. H. Davis [#13] [mwcnlxxx.xxx]1760

May 1999 The Black-Bearded Barbarian, by Marian Keith [bbbrb09x.xxx]1759

May 1999 Majorie Daw, by Thomas Bailey Aldrich [Aldrich #4] [mjdawxxx.xxx]1758

May 1999 Cruise of the Dolphin by Thomas Bailey Aldrich[#3] [dlphnxxx.xxx]1757

May 1999 Uncle Vanya, by Anton Chekhov [Checkov #5] [vanyaxxx.xxx]1756

May 1999 Ivanoff, by Anton Chekhov [Checkov #4][vanofxxx.xxx]1755

May 1999 The Sea-Gull, by Anton Chekhov [Checkov #3][cgullxxx.xxx]1754

May 1999 Swan Song [& Intro], by Anton Chekhov [Checkov #2] [swnsgxxx.xxx]1753

May 1999 El Dorado, by Baroness Orczy [More Pimpernell][#2] [ldrdoxxx.xxx]1752

May 1999 Twilight Land, by Howard Pyle [Howard Pyle #3] [twlndxxx.xxx]1751

May 1999 [Reserved for Plato] ******** [xxx.xxx]1750

May 1999 Cousin Betty, by Honore de Balzac [de Balzac #66] [cbttyxxx.xxx]1749

May 1999 Other People's Money, by Emile Gaboriau [E.G. #2] [opmnyxxx.xxx]1748

May 1999 The Red Seal, by Natalie Sumner Lincoln [redslxxx.xxx]1747

May 1999 New Collected Rhymes, by Andrew Lang [Lang #14] [nwclrxxx.xxx]1746

May 1999 Poetical Works, by John Milton [pmsjmxxx.xxx]1745

May 1999 Philebus, by Plato [More of Socrates][Plato #28] [philbxxx.xxx]1744

May 1999 Twelve Stories and a Dream, by H. G. Wells[HGW#17] [12sadxxx.xxx]1743

May 1999 Miss Civilization, by Richard Harding Davis [#12] [miscvxxx.xxx]1742

May 1999 The White Moll, by Frank L. Packard [Packard #2] [wtmolxxx.xxx]1741

May 1999 The Flying U's Last Stand, by B. M. Bower [BMB #8] [fuslsxxx.xxx]1740

May 1999 The Black Death/The Dancing Mania, by J.F.C. Hecker[bdadm10.txt]1739

May 1999 Statesman, by Plato [Plato #27][sttsmxxx.xxx]1738

May 1999 Facino Cane, by Honore de Balzac [H. de Balzac#65] [fcanexxx.xxx]1737

May 1999 Cromwell, Shakespeare Apocrypha [1ws49xxx.xxx]1736* May 1999 Sophist, by Plato [More of Socrates][Plato #26][sophtxxx.xxx]1735

May 1999 Secret Places of the Heart, by H.G. Wells[HGW #16] [spothxxx.xxx]1734

May 1999 The Red Cross Girl, by Richard Harding Davis [#11] [rdcrgxxx.xxx]1733

May 1999 The Schoolmistress, et al, by Anton Chekhov [AC#1] [tschmxxx.xxx]1732

May 1999 Sister Songs, by Francis Thompson [F. Thompson #3] [ssngsxxx.xxx]1731

May 1999 Michael, Brother of Jerry, by Jack London [JL #71]

[mcjerxxx.xxx]1730

May 1999 The Deserted Woman, by Honore de Balzac[Balzac#64] [dswmnxxx.xxx]1729

and:

Most of these Shakespeare files are vastly improved versions from our original Complete works of Shakespeare [Etext #100] but some are new. We had so many requests to post Shakespeare as individual files, that we decided a whole new version was worth the effort, and here it is!!

1Notes: We don't have new versions for all the works yet. . .but will.

Jul 1999 King Henry VIII, by Shakespeare [1ws4211x.xxx]1802

Jul 1999 The Tempest, by Shakespeare [1ws4111x.xxx]1801

Jun 1999 The Winter's Tale, by Shakespeare [1ws4011x.xxx]1800

Jun 1999 Cymbeline, by Shakespeare [1ws3911x.xxx]1799

Jun 1999 Timon of Athens, by Shakespeare [1ws3711x.xxx]1798

Jun 1999 Coriolanus, by Shakespeare [1ws3611x.xxx]1797

Jun 1999 Antony and Cleopatra, by Shakespeare [1ws3511x.xxx]1796

Jun 1999 King Lear, by Shakespeare [1ws3311x.xxx]1794

Jun 1999 All's Well That Ends Well, by Shakespeare [1ws3011x.xxx]1791

Jun 1999 Troilus and Cressida, by Shakespeare [1ws2911x.xxx]1790

Jun 1999 Hamlet, by Shakespeare [1ws2611x.xxx]1787

Jun 1999 As You Like It, by Shakespeare [1ws2511x.xxx]1786

Jun 1999 Julius Caesar, by Shakespeare [1ws2411x.xxx]1785

Jun 1999 King Henry V, by Shakespeare [1ws2311x.xxx]1784

Jun 1999 Much Ado About Nothing, by Shakespeare [1ws2211x.xxx]1783

Jun 1999 King Henry IV, Part 2, by Shakespeare [1ws2111x.xxx]1782

Jun 1999 The Merry Wives of Windsor, by Shakespeare [1ws2011x.xxx]1781

Jun 1999 King Henry IV, Part 1, by Shakespeare [1ws1911x.xxx]1780

Jun 1999 The Merchant of Venice, by Shakespeare [1ws1811x.xxx]1779

Jun 1999 King Richard II, by Shakespeare [1ws1511x.xxx]1776

Jun 1999 King John, by Shakespeare [1ws1411x.xxx]1775

Jun 1999 Love's Labour's Lost, by Shakespeare [1ws1211x.xxx]1774

Jun 1999 Two Gentlemen of Verona, by Shakespeare [1ws1111x.xxx]1773

Jun 1999 The Taming of the Shrew, by Shakespeare [1ws1011x.xxx]1772

Jun 1999 The Comedy of Errors, by Shakespeare [1ws0611x.xxx]1769

Jun 1999 King Richard III, by Shakespeare [1ws0411x.xxx]1768

Mac users can download our .txt files in binary mode to avoid the double spacing cr/lf line ends creates. Or download the .zip files, which unzip properly for nearly any operating system they are unzipped for…

From Edupage:

UNIVERSAL TRANSLATION SERVICE Researchers at the United Nations University in Tokyo are developing a Universal Networking Language (UNL) that would take text in any language and translate it into any other language. The university is working with U.N. governments and companies to make UNL modules to support the languages of all U.N. member countries by 2005. (Information Week 30 Nov 98)

Edupage … is what you've just finished reading excerpts of– to subscribe to Edupage: send mail to: listproc@educom.unc.edu with the message: subscribe edupage Susan B. Anthony (if your name is Susan B. Anthony; otherwise use your own name To unsubscribe send a message to: listproc@educom.unc.edu with the message: unsubscribe edupage. If you have problems, send email to manager@educom.unc.edu.) "I love Edupage." mh Edupage is written by John Gehl (gehl@educom.edu), and Suzanne Douglas (douglas@educom.edu). USA Telephone: 770-590-1017

Edupage is supported by Educom

About the Project Gutenberg Newsletter: [Goes out approximately first Wednesday of each month. But different relays will get it to you at different times; you can subscribe directly, just send me email to find out how, or surf to promo.net/pg to subscribe directly by yourself.]

End of Project Gutenberg's Project Gutenberg Newsleters 1999, by Michael Hart

License

START: FULL LICENSE

THE FULL PROJECT GUTENBERG™ LICENSE

PLEASE READ THIS BEFORE YOU DISTRIBUTE OR USE THIS WORK

To protect the Project Gutenberg™ mission of promoting the free distribution of electronic works, by using or distributing this work (or any other work associated in any way with the phrase "Project Gutenberg"), you agree to comply with all the terms of the Full

The Full Project Gutenberg License

Project Gutenberg License available with this file or online at www.gutenberg.org/license.

Section 1. General Terms of Use and Redistributing Project Gutenberg electronic works

1.A. By reading or using any part of this Project Gutenberg electronic work, you indicate that you have read, understand, agree to and accept all the terms of this license and intellectual property (trademark/copyright) agreement. If you do not agree to abide by all the terms of this agreement, you must cease using and return or destroy all copies of Project Gutenberg electronic works in your possession. If you paid a fee for obtaining a copy of or access to a Project Gutenberg electronic work and you do not agree to be bound by the terms of this agreement, you may obtain a refund from the person or entity to whom you paid the fee as set forth in paragraph 1.E.8.

1.B. “Project Gutenberg” is a registered trademark. It may only be used on or associated in any way with an electronic work by people who agree to be bound by the terms of this agreement. There are a few things that you can do with most Project Gutenberg electronic works even without complying with the full terms of this agreement. See paragraph 1.C below. There are a lot of things you can do with Project Gutenberg electronic works if you follow the terms of this agreement and help preserve free future access to Project Gutenberg electronic works. See paragraph 1.E below.

1.C. The Project Gutenberg Literary Archive Foundation (“the Foundation” or PGLAF), owns a compilation copyright in the collection of Project Gutenberg electronic works. Nearly all the individual works in the collection are in the public domain in the United States. If an individual work is unprotected by copyright law in the United States and you are located in the United States, we do not claim a right to prevent you from copying, distributing, performing, displaying or creating derivative works based on the work as long as all references to Project Gutenberg are removed. Of course, we hope that you will support the Project Gutenberg mission of promoting free access to electronic works by freely sharing Project Gutenberg works in compliance with the terms of this agreement for keeping the Project Gutenberg name

associated with the work. You can easily comply with the terms of this agreement by keeping this work in the same format with its attached full Project Gutenberg License when you share it without charge with others.

This particular work is one of the few individual works protected by copyright law in the United States and most of the remainder of the world, included in the Project Gutenberg collection with the permission of the copyright holder. Information on the copyright owner for this particular work and the terms of use imposed by the copyright holder on this work are set forth at the beginning of this work.

1.D. The copyright laws of the place where you are located also govern what you can do with this work. Copyright laws in most countries are in a constant state of change. If you are outside the United States, check the laws of your country in addition to the terms of this agreement before downloading, copying, displaying, performing, distributing or creating derivative works based on this work or any other Project Gutenberg work. The Foundation makes no representations concerning the copyright status of any work in any country other than the United States.

1.E. Unless you have removed all references to Project Gutenberg:

1.E.1. The following sentence, with active links to, or other immediate access to, the full Project Gutenberg License must appear prominently whenever any copy of a Project Gutenberg work (any work on which the phrase “Project Gutenberg” appears, or with which the phrase “Project Gutenberg” is associated) is accessed, displayed, performed, viewed, copied or distributed:

```
This eBook is for the use of anyone anywhere in the United States
and most other parts of the world at no cost and with almost no
restrictions whatsoever. You may copy it, give it away or re-use it
under the terms of the Project Gutenberg™ License included with
this eBook or online at www.gutenberg.org. If you are not located
in the United States, you will have to check the laws of the
country where you are located before using this eBook.
```

1.E.2. If an individual Project Gutenberg electronic work is derived from texts not protected by U.S. copyright law (does not contain a notice indicating that it is posted with permission of the copyright holder), the work can be copied and distributed to anyone in the United States without paying any fees or charges. If you are redistributing or providing access to a work with the phrase “Project Gutenberg” associated with or appearing on the work, you must comply either with the requirements of paragraphs 1.E.1 through 1.E.7 or obtain permission for the use of the work and the Project Gutenberg trademark as set forth in paragraphs 1.E.8 or 1.E.9.

1.E.3. If an individual Project Gutenberg electronic work is posted with the permission of the copyright holder, your use and distribution must comply with both paragraphs 1.E.1 through 1.E.7 and any additional terms imposed by the copyright holder. Additional terms will be linked to the Project Gutenberg License for all works posted with the permission of the copyright holder found at the beginning of this work.

1.E.4. Do not unlink or detach or remove the full Project Gutenberg License terms from this work, or any files containing a part of this work or any other work associated with Project Gutenberg.

1.E.5. Do not copy, display, perform, distribute or redistribute this electronic work, or any part of this electronic work, without prominently displaying the sentence set forth in paragraph 1.E.1 with active links or immediate access to the full terms of the Project Gutenberg License.

1.E.6. You may convert to and distribute this work in any binary, compressed, marked up, nonproprietary or proprietary form, including any word processing or hypertext form. However, if you provide access to or distribute copies of a Project Gutenberg work in a format other than “Plain Vanilla ASCII” or other format used in the official version posted on the official Project Gutenberg website (www.gutenberg.org), you must, at no additional cost, fee or expense to the user, provide a copy, a means of exporting a copy, or a means of obtaining a copy upon request, of the work in its original “Plain Vanilla ASCII” or other form. Any alternate format must include the full Project Gutenberg License as specified in paragraph 1.E.1.

1.E.7. Do not charge a fee for access to, viewing, displaying, performing, copying or distributing any Project Gutenberg works unless you comply with paragraph 1.E.8 or 1.E.9.

1.E.8. You may charge a reasonable fee for copies of or providing access to or distributing Project Gutenberg electronic works provided that:

• You pay a royalty fee of 20% of the gross profits you derive from the use of Project Gutenberg works calculated using the method you already use to calculate your applicable taxes. The fee is owed to the owner of the Project Gutenberg trademark, but he has agreed to donate royalties under this paragraph to the Project Gutenberg Literary Archive Foundation. Royalty payments must be paid within 60 days following each date on which you prepare (or are legally required to prepare) your periodic tax returns. Royalty payments should be clearly marked as such and sent to the Project Gutenberg Literary Archive Foundation at the address specified in Section 4, “Information about donations to the Project

Gutenberg
Literary Archive Foundation."

• You provide a full refund of any money paid by a user who notifies
you in writing (or by e-mail) within 30 days of receipt that s/he does not agree to the terms of the full Project Gutenberg™ License. You must require such a user to return or destroy all copies of the works possessed in a physical medium and discontinue all use of and all access to other copies of Project Gutenberg™ works.

• You provide, in accordance with paragraph 1.F.3, a full refund of any money paid for a work or a replacement copy, if a defect in the electronic work is discovered and reported to you within 90 days of receipt of the work.

• You comply with all other terms of this agreement for free distribution of Project Gutenberg™ works.

1.E.9. If you wish to charge a fee or distribute a Project Gutenberg™ electronic work or group of works on different terms than are set forth in this agreement, you must obtain permission in writing from the Project Gutenberg Literary Archive Foundation, the manager of the Project Gutenberg™ trademark. Contact the Foundation as set forth in Section 3 below.

1.F.

1.F.1. Project Gutenberg volunteers and employees expend considerable effort to identify, do copyright research on, transcribe and proofread works not protected by U.S. copyright law in creating the Project Gutenberg™ collection. Despite these efforts, Project Gutenberg™ electronic works, and the medium on which they may be stored, may contain "Defects," such as, but not limited to, incomplete, inaccurate or corrupt data, transcription errors, a copyright or other intellectual property infringement, a defective or damaged disk or other medium, a computer virus, or computer codes that damage or cannot be read by your equipment.

1.F.2. LIMITED WARRANTY, DISCLAIMER OF DAMAGES - Except for the "Right of Replacement or Refund" described in paragraph 1.F.3, the Project Gutenberg Literary Archive Foundation, the owner of the Project Gutenberg™ trademark, and any other party distributing a Project Gutenberg™ electronic work under this agreement, disclaim all liability to you for damages, costs and expenses, including legal fees. YOU AGREE THAT YOU HAVE NO REMEDIES FOR NEGLIGENCE, STRICT LIABILITY, BREACH OF WARRANTY OR BREACH OF CONTRACT EXCEPT THOSE PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH

1.F.3. YOU AGREE THAT THE FOUNDATION, THE TRADEMARK OWNER, AND ANY DISTRIBUTOR UNDER THIS AGREEMENT WILL NOT BE LIABLE TO YOU FOR ACTUAL, DIRECT, INDIRECT, CONSEQUENTIAL, PUNITIVE OR INCIDENTAL DAMAGES EVEN IF YOU GIVE NOTICE OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGE.

1.F.3. LIMITED RIGHT OF REPLACEMENT OR REFUND - If you discover a defect in this electronic work within 90 days of receiving it, you can receive a refund of the money (if any) you paid for it by sending a written explanation to the person you received the work from. If you received the work on a physical medium, you must return the medium with your written explanation. The person or entity that provided you with the defective work may elect to provide a replacement copy in lieu of a refund. If you received the work electronically, the person or entity providing it to you may choose to give you a second opportunity to receive the work electronically in lieu of a refund. If the second copy is also defective, you may demand a refund in writing without further opportunities to fix the problem.

1.F.4. Except for the limited right of replacement or refund set forth in paragraph 1.F.3, this work is provided to you 'AS-IS', WITH NO OTHER WARRANTIES OF ANY KIND, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR ANY PURPOSE.

1.F.5. Some states do not allow disclaimers of certain implied warranties or the exclusion or limitation of certain types of damages. If any disclaimer or limitation set forth in this agreement violates the law of the state applicable to this agreement, the agreement shall be interpreted to make the maximum disclaimer or limitation permitted by the applicable state law. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this agreement shall not void the remaining provisions.

1.F.6. INDEMNITY - You agree to indemnify and hold the Foundation, the trademark owner, any agent or employee of the Foundation, anyone providing copies of Project Gutenberg™ electronic works in accordance with this agreement, and any volunteers associated with the production, promotion and distribution of Project Gutenberg™ electronic works, harmless from all liability, costs and expenses, including legal fees, that arise directly or indirectly from any of the following which you do or cause to occur: (a) distribution of this or any Project Gutenberg work, (b) alteration, modification, or additions or deletions to any Project Gutenberg work, and (c) any Defect you cause.

Section 2. Information about the Mission of Project Gutenberg

Project Gutenberg is synonymous with the free distribution of electronic works in formats readable by the widest variety of computers including obsolete, old, middle-aged and new computers. It exists because of the efforts of hundreds of volunteers and donations from people in all walks of life.

Volunteers and financial support to provide volunteers with the assistance they need are critical to reaching Project Gutenberg's goals and ensuring that the Project Gutenberg collection will remain freely available for generations to come. In 2001, the Project Gutenberg Literary Archive Foundation was created to provide a secure and permanent future for Project Gutenberg and future generations. To learn more about the Project Gutenberg Literary Archive Foundation and how your efforts and donations can help, see Sections 3 and 4 and the Foundation information page at www.gutenberg.org.

Section 3. Information about the Project Gutenberg Literary Archive Foundation

The Project Gutenberg Literary Archive Foundation is a non-profit 501(c)(3) educational corporation organized under the laws of the state of Mississippi and granted tax exempt status by the Internal Revenue Service. The Foundation's EIN or federal tax identification number is 64-6221541. Contributions to the Project Gutenberg Literary Archive Foundation are tax deductible to the full extent permitted by U.S. federal laws and your state's laws.

The Foundation's business office is located at 41 Watchung Plaza #516, Montclair NJ 07042, USA, +1 (862) 621-9288. Email contact links and up to date contact information can be found at the Foundation's website and official page at www.gutenberg.org/contact

Section 4. Information about Donations to the Project Gutenberg Literary Archive Foundation

Project Gutenberg™ depends upon and cannot survive without widespread public support and donations to carry out its mission of increasing the number of public domain and licensed works that can be freely distributed in machine-readable form accessible by the widest array of equipment including outdated equipment. Many small donations ($1 to $5,000) are particularly important to maintaining tax exempt status with the IRS.

The Foundation is committed to complying with the laws regulating charities and charitable donations in all 50 states of the United States. Compliance requirements are not uniform and it takes a considerable effort, much paperwork and many fees to meet and keep up with these requirements. We

do not solicit donations in locations where we have not received written confirmation of compliance. To SEND DONATIONS or determine the status of compliance for any particular state visit www.gutenberg.org/donate.

While we cannot and do not solicit contributions from states where we have not met the solicitation requirements, we know of no prohibition against accepting unsolicited donations from donors in such states who approach us with offers to donate.

International donations are gratefully accepted, but we cannot make any statements concerning tax treatment of donations received from outside the United States. U.S. laws alone swamp our small staff.

Please check the Project Gutenberg web pages for current donation methods and addresses. Donations are accepted in a number of other ways including checks, online payments and credit card donations. To donate, please visit: www.gutenberg.org/donate.

Section 5. General Information About Project Gutenberg electronic works

Professor Michael S. Hart was the originator of the Project Gutenberg concept of a library of electronic works that could be freely shared with anyone. For forty years, he produced and distributed Project Gutenberg eBooks with only a loose network of volunteer support.

Project Gutenberg eBooks are often created from several printed editions, all of which are confirmed as not protected by copyright in the U.S. unless a copyright notice is included. Thus, we do not necessarily keep eBooks in compliance with any particular paper edition.

Most people start at our website which has the main PG search facility: www.gutenberg.org.

This website includes information about Project Gutenberg, including how to make donations to the Project Gutenberg Literary Archive Foundation, how to help produce our new eBooks, and how to subscribe to our email newsletter to hear about new eBooks.